GOP aims to strengthen hold of Legislature. PAGE 2
Tinian mayor San Nicolas supports marijuana bill. PAGE 8

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 158

www.saipantribune.com | WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10, 2016 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune | 75¢

FROM $4M TO $8.4M

Medical Referral wants budget to double

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Medical Referral Services Program is asking for an operating budget of $8.4 million for the coming fiscal year to better serve the people of the CNMI who avail of the service.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has allotted $4 million for the program with the money coming from the expected $39 million in gross gaming tax collected from Best Sunshine International, Ltd's live training facility.

Torres identified the Medical Referral Program as one of the core areas where money must be immediately set aside to help patients who are seeking treatment in Guam, Hawaii, or the Philippines.

The money, which is in accordance with Pub-

See MEDICAL on Page 4

JON PEREZ

CNMI Medical Referral program director Ronald D. Sablan, right, talks with Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) after yesterday's Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs' budget hearing at the Senate chamber at the Jose P. Mafnas Memorial Building.

Tropical Storm Conson intensifying

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Drifting westward at 40 miles per hour of maximum sustained winds, Tropical Storm Conson is expected to intensify over the next few days, according to the U.S. National Weather Service yesterday.

As of 7pm yesterday, the center of Tropical Storm Conson was 485 miles north-northwest of Enewatak or about 845 miles east of Saipan or 940 miles east-northeast of Guam.

Earlier yesterday at 1pm, the center of Conson was 455 miles north-northwest of Enewetak or about 890 miles east of Saipan or 980 miles east-northeast of Guam.

NWS said moving west at 8mph, Conson is expected to turn northwest Tuesday night and today, Wednesday, then north on Thursday.

The forecast track takes Conson very near Minami Tori Shima Island Friday night.

Joint Information Center can't get through FEMA line

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Yesterday's scheduled teleconference meeting between the Federal Emergency Management Agency and local government agencies that have been part of the Joint Information Center was short-lived after they can't get through the FEMA line.

The meeting was set in order to come up with a joint catastrophic typhoon plan. The Governor's Office needs a unified document from all agencies that became part of JIC last year that would be submitted to FEMA.

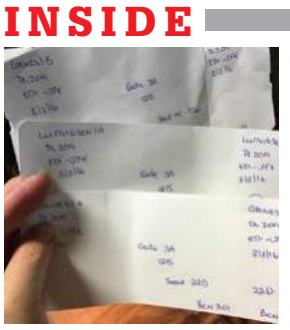
The meeting will be scheduled for another day, as it appeared that there were problems with the phone line or FEMA was offline. FEMA's line could not be reached with a recorded voice message saying that the line for conference call is full.

Press secretary Ivan Blanco, to still make use of their time, said the meeting was to gather all input from the agencies that have become part of JIC last year for a joint catastrophic plan that would help prepare the CNMI in future disasters like typhoons, earthquakes, volcanic eruption, tsunami, and even civil unrest.

"We don't want to reinvent the wheel. We just want to know what we could bring to the table and what FEMA will need from us," said Blanco, who was last year's coordi-

See FEMA on Page 4

INSIDE



BUSINESS
Delta Air Lines will be handing out refunds and travel vouchers as penance for the latest computer outage to knock a major airline off stride.
PAGE 14

ASIA
Japanese Emperor Akihito's video message this week, though subtle, suggested that he wishes to abdicate, and the attention now goes to his elder son.
PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE
"The Simpsons" is doubling down with an hour-long episode in January.
PAGE 21

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

BL
MACHINE SHOP
P.O. Box 10001 PMB 11, Saipan, MP 96950
We believe in building value through strategic and operational excellence
WE DO:
Modifying parts
Fabrication
Resurfacing
Shafting
Cutting
Milling
Threading
To obtain a quotation, please provide a drawing and send to:
blmachineshop@yahoo.com or call us at 235-2567 for more info.

Surf Club SAIPAN
The hottest new restaurant on Saipan is looking to hire a few talented individuals!
is now accepting applications for experienced:
• Cooks
Apply in person at the
Triple J Corporate Office,
Ground Floor, Silver Hotel,
Brigida Street, Chalan Kanoa
Monday through Friday,
9am to 12noon.
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.
corpoffice@triplejsaipan.com
Triple J is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Local

GOP aims to strengthen hold of Legislature

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands Association has introduced its candidates that will be running in this year's elections in the hopes of strengthening its majority in the Legislature and further push the administration's policies and agenda.

The GOP has fielded 18 candidates for the House of Representatives with nine seeking reelection, while the rest are either trying to make a comeback or new faces. Seven of the current 20 members of the House are members of the local GOP while four, who are independents, are also aligned with the GOP.

Former House vice speaker Francisco Dela Cruz, Antonio Agulto, and Janet U. Maratita—all previous House members—are hoping to regain their previous seats.

Three are running for the nine-member Senate with Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (Saipan and Northern Islands) and Francisco Borja (Tinian) seeking reelection. Rota Municipal Council chair George O. Hocog is the other senatorial candidate.

Sens. Steve Mesngon and Teresita Santos (Rota), Francisco Cruz and Jude Hofschneider (Tinian), and Arnold Palacios (Saipan) are the other Republican members of the Senate.

Igisomar is seeking the full four-year term after winning the special election to replace former senator Ray Yumul, who ran for lieutenant governor in 2014 but lost.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres was present when the candidates filed their respective certificates of candidacies and was joined by Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, the local GOP board of directors James Ada (president), Felicidad Ogumoreo (first vice president), Glenna SP Reyes (secretary), and Rufino Inos (treasurer).

Each precinct chairs, the campaign chairs of the respective candidates, their families, friends, and other supporters also showed up.

Press Secretary Ivan Blanco, who is one of the GOP's four candidates in Saipan's Election District III, said Torres and Hocog's presence is a show of confidence on the qualifications of each individual seeking office.

"Gov. Torres and Lt. Gov. Hocog joined the GOP candidates as they filed their candidacy documents this morning. They participated in the filing today in support of the candidates running under the GOP banner," said Blanco, who is also the party spokesperson.

Blanco, who will be taking a leave from his duties as press secretary once the Commonwealth Election Commission certifies his candidacy, added the GOP candidates would advocate for the work provided for under the party's platform.

Vice speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Reps. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan), and Veterans Affairs director Gregorio Sablan Jr. are joining Maratita in Precinct I, while House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) and Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) are the Precinct II candidates.

Donald Barcinas and Joe Itibus are the other two seeking seats in Precinct III together with Blanco and ex-vice speaker Dela Cruz. House Floor Leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) and Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council vice chair Alice Igitol are hoping to clinch the two seats at Saipan's Election District IV.

Former representative Agulto and Francisco Aguon are aiming to represent Precinct V. Reps. Edwin Aldan and Glenn Maratita are seeking reelection for the lone posts in Tinian (Precinct VI) and Rota (Precinct VII).

Judge finds probable cause to charge defendant on robbery of masseuse at hotel

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday found probable cause to charge Jodan Santos Taitingfong over the beating of a Chinese masseuse during a robbery inside her room at Micro Beach Hotel in western Garapan.

At a preliminary hearing, Camacho found probable cause to believe that the crimes of robbery and aggravated assault and battery were committed and that Taitingfong may have committed such offenses.

The judge ordered the 23-year-old Taitingfong to answer the charges.

Camacho dismissed without prejudice the charge of assault and battery because it is a lesser included offense of aggravated assault and battery.

Arraignment will be on Aug. 15 at 9am.

At the hearing yesterday, acting chief prosecutor Barbara Cepeda, counsel for the government, called to the witness stand police detective Jeffrey Norita, who testified about their investigation that led to defendant's arrest.

Attorney Rosemond Santos is counsel for Taitingfong.

Norita stated in his report that it was a "confidential source" who revealed to a police officer that the person on the surveillance camera's footage in the Micro Beach robbery was Taitingfong.

Norita said the "confidential source" is a close family member of Taitingfong.

Norita said the victim also identified Taitingfong in a lineup as the person who attacked her in her bedroom and ran away with her purse.

The purse worth $500 contained $56 and other items, police said.

Two police officers responded last July 7 at 2:17am to the robbery incident that occurred at one of the rooms on the third floor of Micro Beach Hotel.

The officers gathered that the suspect, who was later identified as Taitingfong, assaulted the masseuse in her room.

The officers noticed that the victim's mouth was bleeding and her left eye and left cheek were swollen. The officers also observed drips of blood on the floor of the bedroom, restroom, in the sink, and on the bed.

Norita said during their interview, Taitingfong admitted he was with the masseuse that early morning of July 7, but he denied beating her up.

Norita said they obtained another camera's footage, where Taitingfong was seen running away holding the victim's purse.

The hotel's surveillance camera also captured a clear footage of the suspect along with the masseuse upon entering the hotel's main entrance on the ground floor.

Apatang hopes water booster pump project completed soon

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang is hoping that the planned construction of a water booster pump in As Falape would be completed soon to ease the burden to all the families living in that area.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said the water reservoir servicing As Falape is lower than the homes of the families living in the area. The said agency though lacks the money needed to fund the project.

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, however, came to the rescue and appropriated $256,241 as part of the government's efforts to find permanent solutions on the island's water problem.

Apatang is thankful of the SNILD's gesture. "We appreciate what they have done to fund the water booster pump project for the As Falape area," Apatang told *Saipan Tribune* after hosting a group of Korean students last Friday.

"There are some families there that are without water for a long time and they have been buying water. So I met with CUC last week, and gave them a copy of the appropriation made by SNILD. So hopefully they could start looking into that," he added.

Apatang said CUC executive director Gary Camacho assured him that they would start working on the plans and other things needed to begin the project.

"[Camacho] said they would start working on that so we could finally take care of the situation. They have to do plans and survey those areas," added Apatang.

He said that As Mahetog and parts of Chalan Kanoa are also experiencing water problems aside from As Falipe. "I know there used to be a pipe there in As Falipe but somebody removed the booster pump in the area."

"But not only in As Falipe, there are some other areas like in As Mahetong where I think the water pressure is so low and it won't go up to the hill. Some people in CK have also been calling for assistance."

Apatang said they are trying to ask the Rotary Club of Saipan for some help. "What we're trying to do is to do some survey where are the areas that needed help and hopefully we can get a truck to help the people in the areas without water."

"We're working with the Rotary Club of Saipan to see if they could help out in securing a water truck. So we can start delivering to the people," added Apatang.

The Saipan Mayor's Office has been delivering water to people who have no access to one of the basic needs in daily living.

JON PEREZ
Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang gamely answers questions by Korean students that visited his office last Friday. The students are on Saipan as part of Costa World's annual Wow Camp.

Suspected 'ice' trafficker re-arrested; $100K cash bail imposed

A suspected supplier of methamphetamine or "ice" who was arrested last June but was later released after he agreed to serve as an informant with law enforcement, was re-arrested and brought before the Superior Court yesterday for bail hearing.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a $100,000 cash bail on Joseph T. White, also known as Dims, for two counts of trafficking of controlled substance and two counts of illegal possession of controlled substance.

Kim-Tenorio set the preliminary hearing for Aug. 15 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for the 25-year-old White. Assistant attorney general Jonathan Robert Glass Jr. appeared as counsel for the government.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds on Monday filed a motion to unseal documents in White's case and a motion to revoke the stipulation for release of defendant from custody.

Drug Enforcement Task Force agents arrested White last June 3 after their "cooperating defendant" managed to purchase 0.6 gross grams of "ice" worth $130 from White in a parking lot of a commercial building in Garapan last April 5, and another "cooperating source" was able to buy 0.9 gross grams of "ice" from the defendant in a parking lot of Treasure Island Poker in Garapan later on that same day.

Hinds said upon being arrested, White requested to assist law enforcement as a cooperating defendant/informant, provided that DETF would agree to release him without cash subject to certain conditions.

The government agreed and requested the court that all documents in this case be filed under seal to protect the confidentiality of ongoing drugs investigation.

The court then granted the motion to seal, as well as the release of White subject to some conditions.

Hinds said however, White, has "come to an end" with law enforcement in ongoing investigations.

Thus, Hinds said, there is no need to continue keeping under seal all documents in this case, nor should White be permitted to remain on release on own recognizance.

Hinds recommended a $100,000 cash bail on White.

Kim-Tenorio granted the government's motion. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Your Next Stop –
Imperial Pacific Resort

IMPERIAL PACIFIC
博 華 太 平 洋

Date: Thursday 11 Aug 2016 (For Food & Beverage / Finance Positions)
Friday 12 Aug 2016 (For Hotel Operations Positions)
Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Venue: Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Banquet Hall - Azucena

RECRUITMENT DAY

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Steward	60
Trainee (Chinese / Western Kitchen)	15
Commis II (Chinese / Western Kitchen)	20
Commis I (Chinese / Western Kitchen)	30
Demi Chef (Chinese / Western Kitchen)	10
Chef de Partie (Chinese / Western Kitchen)	10
Junior Sous Chef	5
Bartender	50
Bar Back	35
Sever I / Server II	20
Supervisor - Western / Chinese	15
Demi Chef - Cold / Main Kitchen	6
Demi Chef - Noodle / Employee Dining Room	4
Sous Chef - Cold / Main Kitchen	2
Sous Chef - Noodle / Employee Dining Room	5
Chef de Partie - Noodle / Employee Dining Room	11
Commis I - Cold / Main Kitchen	2
Commis I - Noodle / Employee Dining Room	11
Chef de Cuisine - Cold / Main Kitchen	2
Chef de Cuisine - Noodle / Employee Dining Room	2

HOTEL OPERATIONS

Assistant Executive Housekeeper	2
Assistant Manager - Public Area	2
Bell Person	4
Door Person	8
Inventory Clerk	2
Linen Attendant	20
Public Area Attendant	56
Room Attendant	58
Supervisor - Butler Services	11
Supervisor – Housekeeping	13
Supervisor – Laundry	3
Supervisor – Linen	3
Supervisor - Public Area	12
Supervisor – Wardrobe	4

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Project Engineer (Electrical/HVAC/Plumbing and Drainage)	3
Project Manager	1

FINANCE

Assistant Vice President/ Vice President - Group Taxation	1
Cage Cashier	20
Count Cashier	10

To apply, please visit imperialpaccareer.com

For schedule your priority interview, please contact us at +1(670) 233-9188 during office hours from Monday to Friday between 9:00am to 5:00pm or by email: careers@bestsunshinesaipan.com **before August 10, 2016.**

This Company is an equal opportunity employer dedicated to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment, regardless of a person's sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability.
All data collected will be kept confidential and used for recruitment purposes only

http://www.imperialpaccareer.com

New appointments to NMC Board of Regents, election commission

Acting governor Victor Hocog yesterday made appointments to the local college board and the Commonwealth Election Commission.

Hocog appointed Irene Tudela Torres to serve as a member of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents.

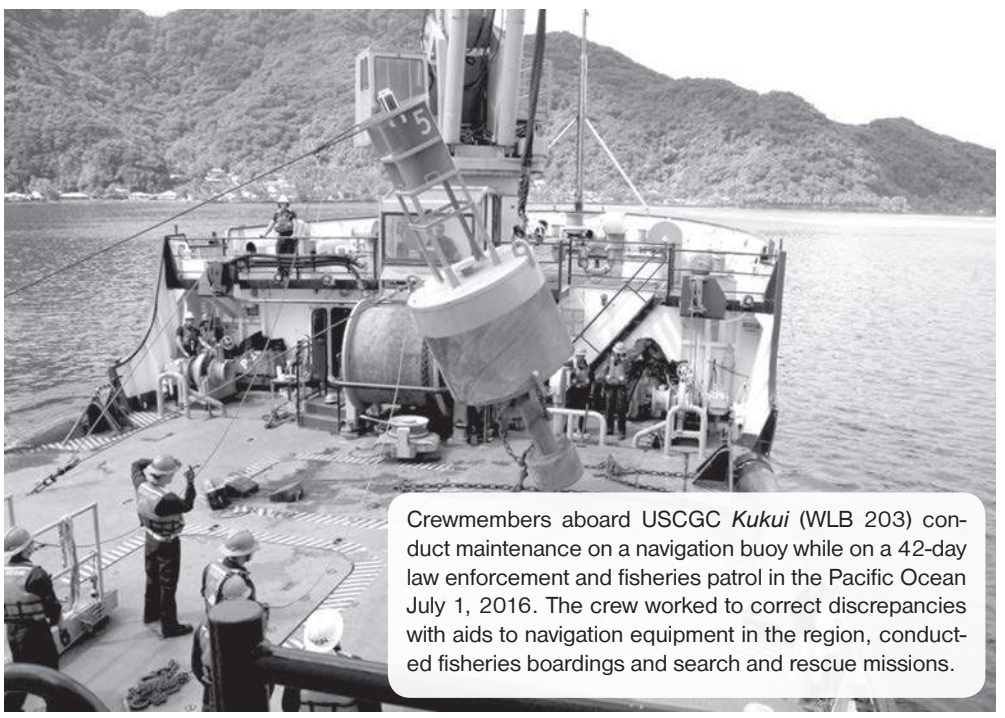
If confirmed by the Senate, Torres will serve a term vacated by Maria "Malua" Peter that expires in May 29, 2020.

Hocog also yesterday nominated Esther Yatar to serve as a member of election commission representing the First Senatorial District or Rota.

If confirmed by the Senate, Yatar will fill a seat vacated by Josepha Barcinas and will serve a four-year term to commence on the date of her confirmation.

On Monday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres also appointed Glenda Sablan George to serve as a member of the Health Care Professions Licensing Board. George will serve a four-year term if confirmed by the Senate and fills a seat vacated by Pamela Ann Carhill. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

USCGC *Kukui* returns from 42-day Western, Central Pacific patrol



Crewmembers aboard USCGC *Kukui* (WLB 203) conduct maintenance on a navigation buoy while on a 42-day law enforcement and fisheries patrol in the Pacific Ocean July 1, 2016. The crew worked to correct discrepancies with aids to navigation equipment in the region, conducted fisheries boardings and search and rescue missions.

HONOLULU—The USCGC *Kukui* (WLB 203) crew returned home to Honolulu recently after a 42-day patrol of the Western and Central Pacific to enforce federal fishing regulations of highly migratory fish stocks such as tuna while strengthening relations with Pacific partners.

"*Kukui*'s crew is proud to be part of the U.S. Coast Guard and its mission toward a prosperous, secure and stable Pacific fishing industry," said Lt. Cmdr. Brendan Harris, commanding officer of the *Kukui*. "The joint work we do under our bi-lateral agreements with Pacific nations like Tuvalu and the Cook Islands have increased the overall number of boardings we are able to conduct and our enforcement presence in the Pacific where these highly migratory fish stocks are threatened."

Enforcement officials from Tuvalu, Australia, and the Cook Islands assisted *Kukui* during this patrol. Their presence was highly instrumental in facilitating communications between the Coast Guard and various officials as well as with foreign fishing vessels encountered during this deployment. As a result, *Kukui*'s crew completed 16 fisheries enforcement boardings within the high seas and foreign exclusive economic zones under the authority of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the bilateral agreements with the countries of Tuvalu and the Cook Islands. Types of vessels inspected include commercial fishing vessels, long liners and purse seiners.

WCPFC is comprised of 26 nations that regulate fisheries in the high seas regions of the Pacific. Within these partnerships, the U.S. Coast Guard's 14th District works closely to promote the conservation and sustainable use of migratory fish stocks.

The Coast Guard executes bilateral agreements with nine Pacific Island countries: Tonga, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Republic of Marshall Islands, the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Samoa, Republic of Nauru, and the government of Tuvalu. This body of agreements, commonly known as shiprider agreements, allows the service to engage in bilateral maritime operations where a law enforcement officer rides aboard a Coast Guard platform, usually a cutter, enforces their own nation's laws within their own EEZ with the Coast Guard's support. This allows for capacity building, training, joint operations and the safeguarding of highly migratory fish stocks in the Pacific that may enter and travel to any of a number of different EEZs, including that of the United States.

The *Kukui*'s crew sought out volunteer opportunities while deployed. They conducted firefighting training to the Tuvaluan Coast Guard, participated in Operation Orange Initiative in Funafuti, Tuvalu, where crewmembers painted 20 fishing vessels orange to increase visibility in the event of a distress situation, and conducted a professional exchange with members from the Cook Islands Patrol boat, the *Te Kukupa.*

The crew also worked with members from the United States Geological Survey to reestablish a seismic monitoring and tsunami warning site that was destroyed from years of wear and recent storms in Canton, Kiribati.

The crew re-established Lighted Buoy 5 in Pago Pago Harbor and responded to a rescue and assistance case for a fishing vessel adrift 30 miles offshore American Samoa.

The U.S. has 90,000 miles of coastline and 3.4 million square nautical miles of exclusive economic zone, the waters that project 200 miles outward from the coast. Of the total U.S. EEZs, 43 percent exist in the Pacific Ocean around Guam, American Samoa, and the State of Hawaii as well as other U.S. territories in the Pacific. ***(PR)***

Pacific Community receives international recognition for geospatial innovation

SUVA, Fiji—The Pacific Community's (SPC) Geoscience Division is being bestowed the Asia Geospatial Excellence Award for Disaster Management by Geosmart Asia, a leading conference and exhibition for the Asia-Pacific region showcasing the capabilities of geospatial technologies for national development and industry growth.

The award recognizes exemplary innovation and practices in geospatial information and technology in the Asia-Pacific region.

"The Pacific region is prone to the vagaries of nature and geospatial information has proven to play a significant role in preparedness and mitigating losses. In such a scenario, the vision and initiatives of SPC's Geoscience Division to promote geospatial information for safeguarding the region are commendable," Geosmart Asia Pacific vice president Prashant Joshi said in announcing the accolade.

SPC's Geoscience Division is at the forefront of satellite image data and technology services that benefit the Pacific region across a broad range of sectors including climate change adaptation and disaster management, forestry, land use planning, agriculture, fisheries, infrastructure and urban planning, biodiversity conservation as well as education.

The division has a number of ongoing initiatives with several development partners on developing decision support tools that produce realistic natural hazard impact scenarios for use in planning, disaster preparedness and response activities, using hazard and exposure spatial data.

SPC, through its Geoscience Division, also jointly hosts the annual Pacific Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing (GIS/RS) Conference with Fiji's Department of Lands and the University of the South Pacific which brings together over 300 participants from over 30 countries, including Pacific Island government representatives, consulting companies and the private sector.

"SPC is delighted to receive this award and due credit goes to the dedicated team of professionals in our Geoscience Division," Pacific Community director general Dr. Colin Tukuitonga said.

"Through their expertise and work ethic SPC is able to provide valuable support to Pacific Island countries and territories with recent examples being the provision of satellite imagery assistance in the immediate aftermath of Tropical Cyclones Pam and Winston," Tukuitonga added.

The Asia Geospatial Excellence Award for Disaster Management will be presented to SPC at the annual GeoSmart Asia Conference which will be held in Malaysia in October. ***(PR)***

MEDICAL

From Page 1

lic Law 18-56 or the Exclusive Gaming Tax, also aims to supplement the program with technical support to provide critical service to the people.

Medical Referral program director Ronald D. Sablan said their agency is asking to double the budget from $4 million to $8.4 million. He added they based the budget that they are asking on the last three to eight fiscal years that the program had spent.

So far, they have already spent $5 million in actual expenditures for FY 2016 with $2.1 million in the Philippines alone. "Because we're paying for Medicaid patients. These are medical costs that are not covered especially in the Philippines and in Guam."

"What we're asking for is basically what we feel that we need. Of course you cannot project medical conditions so we based on historical data on how much we need to help the people under the medial referral program," said Sablan.

He added that their program would only need less than half of the $8.4 million if they were not paying the expenses incurred by Medicaid patients. Medicaid is not applicable in the Philippines while a lot of providers in Guam do not accept Medicaid.

"Because they don't have a contract, Medicaid here has a separate contract with every business and institution in Guam or anywhere else. If they don't have contract, they can't get paid, and we end up footing the cost. And that's why we spend too much."

The CNMI has an average of 800 medical referral patients a year that go to the Philippines, Guam, or Hawaii. These are patients who need to go off-island since the treatment or care that they are seeking is not available on Saipan.

The patient's doctor must first submit a referral where a medial referral committee—composed of Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and private physicians—will review and decide if the patient needs to go and seek treatment overseas.

There are also instances that doctors or medical specialists come to Saipan and spend one month or more to see patients and advice them for further treatment.

FEMA

From Page 1

nator of the JIC after Typhoon Soudelor.

"We sent out a document to some of the public information officers to get accurate information regarding what they do during disasters and the exact [Standard Operating Procedure] they follow. We want to make sure whatever sent out to the public is accurate."

Blanco said that's the main focus of the supposed meeting. They would also want to get everyone's ideas and inputs on how to get and release accurate information. "We're going to try to get FEMA in the teleconference again next week.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero said each government agency needs to know what to do and their responsibilities before, during, and after disasters. "I remember that in mid- to late '90s we have a state emergency plan detailing the functions, evacuation plan, and even addressing the issues on how to deal with hazardous materials," said Guerrero, who added that it was the first thing that he checked when he was appointed to head the DPS.

"We may also look into that. FEMA also has ideas that they want to work on. Let's just see if there's something new. Although, everyone must be aware of what they supposed to do before, during, and after a disaster," Guerrero said.

Blanco wanted each agency or department to have a PIO or a designated person whose primary task is to release information to the public. He said last year was a good lesson to all since it was hard to get the needed information out after the typhoon.

"That's why we even asked folks who we've heard that are going from village to village to be part of the JIC team. If there's a next disaster, I don't know if we can still gather the same people or they would still partner with us," he added.

Releasing accurate information before and after a disaster is important. "Sometimes people hear news and it spreads like wildfire. It really helps if you have all accurate information to get out to general public," said Blanco.

Non-profit wants to see 500 'Flying Proas' in the water

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The 47-foot Proa "Chelu" was a featured exhibit in the 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam. Nonprofit organization 500 Sails.org wants to bring back traditional Chamorro boat making in the Marianas.

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Peter Perez, executive director of 500 Sails.org., said the goal of the nonprofit organization is to bring back traditional Chamorro boat making that was lost long ago due to Spain's colonization of the Marianas.

Serving as the guest speaker of the weekly Saipan Rotary Club meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday, Perez said the organization wants to see 500 of these boats, called "Chamorro Flying Proas" by the Spaniards, out in open water by enabling people to build and maintain them.

Perez thinks the program could help the CNMI not only culturally but economically as well. He even pointed out that multiple Proas along the shore of Saipan in itself is a sight to behold that could attract legions of tourists to the islands.

"You need a reason for people to come here," said Perez. He added the Proa would also benefit the local economy because people could go out on their Proa and catch fish without the expenses that come with modernization (i.e. gasoline) and sell them. The Proa can be sold to buyers or even boat collectors. The program could help the community by hosting events that feature Proas or even starting a Proa community within the CNMI.

Perez expressed the importance of cultural restoration in the CNMI. According to him, people should also learn basic safety precautions and other necessary skill in order to assure the success of Proa sailing.

"Anyone who comes in to learn the program, they'll come in to build their boat and they'll be assisted by what we call Sakman leaders," said Perez.

"At the same time we'd be teaching them how to swim and how to sail. We'll be teaching them very culturally important things like what is the language of sailing."

Perez also stresses that learning how to build a Proa is not just about building for cultural restoration.

"It's also teaching people a vocation. How to work with fiber glass, how to maintain a boat," said Perez. "I envision that one day Saipan would be known as a place that makes boats. That's a pretty cool thing."

Perez even predicts that people would be happier by making boats. "That kind of vocation is culturally relevant. There's a lot of jobs out there that are not culturally relevant. I think people are happiest when they do something that is meaningful to them."

DPA CAR MART
Regularly shipping in Tacoma Trucks twice a month
Financing available
Down payment as low as $1,000.00
We BUY & SELL used cars year 1997 and above
Call 235-8688 for more details or visit us in San Antonio
dpacarmart.wix.com/cars

SM Enterprises
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Offers the following services:
- Boom Truck & Moving Services
- Masonry
- Carpentry
- Painting
- Plumbing
- Tree Removal/Land Clearing
- New House Construction

Call: 670.989-2600 or 670.588-2600

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICIAL SEAL
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR CNMI
economic development
employment
Power of 3
Education

ARE YOU

(A) Not attending any school
(B) Not younger than 16 or older than age 24 and
(C) Meet one or more of the following:
(1) A school dropout
(2) A youth who is within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter. School year calendar is based on how the local school district defines its school year quarters.
(3) A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and is either basic skills deficient or an English language learner
(4) An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
(5) A homeless individual, a runaway, an individual who is in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under Section 477 of the Social Security Act, or an individual who is an out-of-home placement
(6) An individual who is pregnant or parenting
(7) An individual with a disability
(8) A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment

CALL OR VISIT US AT
Workforce Investment Agency Division
PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS
GOV'T BLDG NO. 1215, CAPITOL HILL
664-1704/05/07/08/57

WIOA
SUPPORTING THE EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER SUCCESS OF OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH (OSY)
This ad is paid for by the USDOL Employment and Training Administration

Judge finds investigator's act in gross negligence, but not in bad faith

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has found a police officer's deletion of an interview with an alleged victim of a domestic violence involving her husband, who happened to be a Rota police officer, was a result of gross negligence but not in bad faith.

In his order on Monday denying defendant Police Officer George Ayuyu Barcinas' motion to dismiss the charges against him, Camacho also ruled that the audio recording was not apparently exculpatory at the time it was deleted.

The judge added that since Barcinas has other reasonably available means to obtain the information, the court finds that there has been no due process violation because of a police officer's failure to preserve the audio recording of his interview with the alleged victim.

The Office of the Attorney General alleged that on June 5, 2015 on Rota, Barcinas pinned his wife to the ground and placed her in a headlock. He allegedly grabbed his wife's keys from her car's ignition against her will preventing her from leaving his property.

Barcinas also allegedly used physical force to struggle with and prevent the victim from calling law enforcement after she informed him of her intention to do so.

The bench trial of the 35-year-old Barcinas on charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and interfering with a domestic violence report was initially set for March 4, 2016.

The day before the bench trial, counsel for both parties learned that a responding police officer in this case deleted an audio recording of the statement of the alleged victim.

Before the scheduled bench trial could begin on March 4, Barcinas, through counsel assistant public defender Tillman Clark, orally moved to dismiss the case due to destruction of evidence.

Barcinas later filed his motion to dismiss for destruction of evidence. The government, through assistant attorney general Shannon Foley, opposed the motion.

Camacho then vacated the bench trial and set an evidentiary hearing and motion hearing at the Rota Courthouse last June 20.

At the June 20 hearing, Rota DPS police officer Joseph Quitugua Camacho testified that he responded to an incident of domestic violence at the residence of defendant Barcinas on Rota.

Officer Camacho interviewed the alleged victim, who was with his father, inside his police vehicle.

Officer Camacho recorded the interview with his mobile phone. He testified at the hearing that he told the victim that he would delete the recording once he was finished with it.

After the interview, Officer Camacho proceeded to DPS Rota Central and wrote his report. He testified that he accurately typed all of the information from the victim's interview into his written report and did not omit any information.

Officer Camacho testified that the victim appeared shaken during the interview. The victim also testified that she was shaken during the interview.

The victim's demeanor was not noted in Officer Camacho's written report.

After he finished the interview, Officer Camacho deleted the audio recording. He was not asked by anyone in DPS, nor by the alleged victim, to delete the recording.

Rather, Officer Camacho testified that he deleted the recording to fulfill his promise to the alleged victim—that he would delete the recording once he was finished with his report.

Officer Camacho testified that he had been trained to take notes using a note pad and pen in the police academy.

Officer Camacho testified he did not know if there was any standard procedure for recording interviews with mobile phones.

The alleged victim testified that she had the opportunity to review Officer Camacho's written report, and that it was word-for-word what she told the officer on the night of the incident.

Barcinas, through counsel assistant public defender Tillman Clark, argues that Officer Camacho's destruction of the audio recording of the interview with the alleged victim is a violation of his due process under the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Clark argues that Camacho deleted the recording in bad faith because he deleted an audio recording of the alleged victim "pursuant to personal considerations designed to protect the alleged victim and not under his duty to preserve relevant and material evidence related to a criminal investigation."

In denying defendant's motion to dismiss, Judge Camacho pointed out that based on Officer Camacho's testimony, his motivation in recording and subsequently deleting the audio recording was to avoid having to interview the victim more than once.

Judge Camacho said Officer Camacho promised the alleged victim that he would delete the audio recording, without any prompting from her.

The judge noted that Officer Camacho's misplaced loyalties led him to deviate from his duty to collect and preserve evidence.

The judge said Officer Camacho intentionally deleted the audio recording to keep a promise he made to the alleged victim.

Despite this, Judge Camacho said, the court cannot find bad faith on behalf of the officer when he deleted the audio recording.

Based on the testimony presented to the court at the evidentiary hearing, the judge said Officer Camacho did not realize that the recording could be useful to Barcinas, although he did realize this in hindsight.

"Although the court cannot find bad faith in this particular instance, the court cautions law enforcement officers against letting personal considerations interfere with police investigations," the judge said.

The judge said Officer Camacho's actions skirt the line of bad faith; however, his actions are more correctly viewed as gross negligence rather than outright bad faith.

Judge Camacho said based on the testimony of Officer Camacho and the alleged victim, the audio recording did not seem to possess any exculpatory value.

The judge noted that the alleged victim testified that Officer Camacho's written report was a word for word account of her statement.

Judge Camacho said no testimony or evidence presented to the court indicating that either witness was lying or concealing a portion of the alleged victim's statement.

Thus, the judge said, there is nothing on the court record indicating that the audio recording had an exculpatory nature apparent at the time it was destroyed.

Judge Camacho said based on the testimony at the evidentiary hearing, it is clear that any missing information from the audio recording can be provided through one of the three individuals present in the vehicle at the time of the interview.

Democratic Party fields 2 candidates for Rota and 1 possibly for Saipan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Democratic Party will be fielding two candidates on Rota and one possibly on Saipan for the House of Representatives Precinct 4 seat, according to the party's chair Daniel O. Quitugua.

In a phone interview on Monday night, Quitugua disclosed that for Rota, Thomas A. Manglona will be filing his candidacy for senator either yesterday or today, Wednesday.

Manglona will be running against his older brother, incumbent Rota senator Paul A. Manglona.

Quitugua said Tricia Manglona will also be filing her candidacy for a House's Precinct 7 (Rota) seat either yesterday or today, Wednesday.

He said the Manglonas will be filing their candidacies on Rota, where the Commonwealth Election Commission has sent its staff to entertain submission of nominations and candidacies.

Quitugua said for Saipan, they are still in the process of selecting a candidate who expressed interest to run for a House's Precinct 4 seat.

Precinct 4 covers Tanapag, San Roque, Capital Hill, and Northern Islands.

The party has no bet for Tinian.

Quitugua said they don't have enough bets for the Nov. 8 election because the party just started organizing only last month.

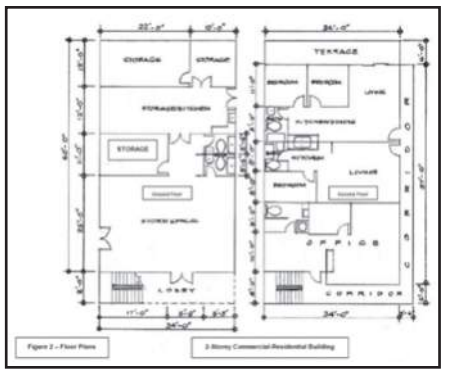
Quitugua said their central executive committee will be meeting on Aug. 18 to discuss, among other issues, the endorsement of any candidates who are running outside of the Democratic Party.

For the U.S. delegate position, the Republican Party has already expressed its support for the re-election of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 I Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
LEASE

COMMERCIAL BUILDING
Lot No. 444-1
SUSUPE, SAIPAN



The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is seeking proposals from individuals or companies to lease Lot 444-1 and its improvements located in Texas Road, Susupe, Saipan. The total land area is 1,856 square meters. The two-storey, semi-concrete framed building situated on the property has a building area of 3,928.50 square feet.

Terms and Condition of Lease
Property is being leased "AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS". All Prospective Lessees are encouraged to visit the property prior to submitting a proposal and are asked to contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Loan Manager at ext. 306 to schedule an appointment. Prospective Lessee must rely on its own investigation and review of the physical, environmental, economic use, compliance, and legal conditions of the Property.

Proposal should include the following information:
- Proposed lease amount and term not to exceed fifteen (15) years
- Name, address and telephone number of contact person.

Proposals entitled "PROPOSAL – SUSUPE COMMERCIAL BUILDING" must be received by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 31, 2016 and should be addressed to:

Mr. Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director
Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149
Saipan, MP 96950

Lease will be awarded to the individual or company with the offer most beneficial to CDA.

The CDA reserves the right: (1) to cancel this Notice at any time for any reason (2) to accept or reject any and all proposals and (3) to request additional information prior to or upon the final selection of a Lessee.

DPW allowed to buy copying equipment as part of admin costs for local projects

Acting governor Victor Hocog has signed into law a local bill to allow the Department of Public Works to include the purchase of copying equipment under administrative costs allowed under capital improvement project funding.

Saipan Local Law 19-22 amends a provision of local law that authorizes the director of DPW's Technical Services Division to use 5 percent of total funds allocated for each locally appropriated project in the Third Senatorial District, or Saipan, for administrative costs provided that these are limited to $15,000 regardless of project amount.

Funds allocated from each project are strictly for administrative costs and the new local law adds "copying equipment" to these costs that include copying costs, certification costs, advertisements, architectural and engineering design, and other costs directly related to the specific project except for personnel hires and travel.

In passing the bill, House Bill 19-64, the Saipan Northern Islands Delegation found that the costs associated with copying documents over the years would have been better invested in procuring copying equipment. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

IN LAWSUIT OVER CNMI GOVT'S $1.2M DEBT

Judge: OAG doesn't understand difference between 'creature of state' and 'arm of state'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho Monday stated that the Office of the Attorney General does not understand the difference between the concepts of "creature of the state" and "arm of the state."

Camacho said the CNMI government, through the OAG, argues that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is an arm of the state—a distinctive status that exists outside of the creature of the state doctrine.

Camacho said the government asserts that CUC, as an arm of the state, could not have entered into a contract with the government.

In illustrating the matter, the judge pointed out that the creature of the state doctrine explains the limits of a political subdivision's proverbial sword; while the arm of the state doctrine explains the extents of a public entity's proverbial shield.

Camacho ruled that the "arm of the state" doctrine allows a public entity to claim 11th Amendment sovereign immunity against a private litigant in federal court; not for the state to claim immunity against a public corporation in state court.

Camacho discussed the two doctrines in his order denying the government's motion for summary judgment and an order denying the Commonwealth's motion for reconsideration in connection with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s lawsuit against the government for refusing to pay its $1.2 million debt.

According to court records, in December 2013, CUC filed the lawsuit alleging that the government was indebted to the utility company in the principal sum of $1,241,137.86, together with pre-judgment interest. CUC alleges that the government breached their utility contract.

The government then moved to dismiss the complaint. At the time, the government argued that CUC, a public utility corporation, lacked capacity to sue the state.

In his order issued on Sept. 3, 2014, Camacho denied the government's motion, noting that the Commonwealth Code explicitly and unambiguously imposed liability on government utility consumers for breach of contract claims.

Camacho also noted that upon review of all of the state of emergency executive orders issued by the governor, none of the executive orders suspended CUC's statutory-created ability to bill government utility consumers.

Third, Camacho ruled, that the government's "creature of the state" argument was broadly a case of overgeneralization of the constitutional principle that a political subdivision cannot sue its creator, the state.

Camacho said the creature of the state doctrine, however, does not apply to public corporations, such as CUC; only as to political subdivisions, such as municipal corporations.

Accordingly, Camacho said, the law provides that if a contract exists between CUC and the government; then the government could be liable for breach of contract.

Three days after Camacho's order denying the government's motion to dismiss, the government petitioned the NMI Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus seeking to overturn the court's order.

The NMI Supreme Court denied the government's petition. The high court held that the government failed to demonstrate that the trial court's ruling was in clear error.

The high court upheld Camacho's ruling that CUC can sue the government.

Now, the government seeks a summary judgment in its favor based on the argument that CUC, being an arm of the state, has no capacity to enter into a contract with the state.

The government, through assistant attorney general David Lochabay, further argues that neither the Superior Court nor the NMI Supreme Court has addressed the issue to a sufficient conclusion.

CUC, through counsel Michael White, filed an opposition.

In his order Monday denying the government's motion, Camacho said the arm of the state doctrine is a test to determine whether a public entity can claim Eleventh Amendment sovereign immunity against a private litigant in federal court—not as to whether the state can claim immunity against a public corporation for breach of contract in a state court.

Second, Camacho said, the government repeats its arguments from its denied motion to dismiss; which is, in effect, an untimely motion for reconsideration.

Camacho said even if a public entity was considered a creature of the state and was barred by the general prohibition to sue the state; it could still claim 11th Amendment sovereign immunity against a private litigant in federal court under the arm of the state doctrine.

Camacho said as this court previously held in its order denying the government's motion to dismiss, the arm of the state doctrine is inapplicable to this case.

The government argues that arguments brought in its motion for summary judgment are entirely new because "the government cited only creature of the state and lack of capacity cases.

Camacho said the government's motion for summary judgment is, in effect, a motion for reconsideration because all of the arguments brought by the government in the instant motion are the same arguments brought in its previously filed motion.

The judge said the law requires that motions for reconsideration are brought within 10 days of the entry of order.

Denying the motion for being untimely, Camacho cited that he issued an entry of the order denying the government's motion to dismiss on Sept. 2, 2014, but the government filed the motion for summary judgment, which is, in effect, a motion for reconsideration, on Dec. 31, 2015.

2 more CNMI residents accepted to Hawaii Job Corps

John S. Barcinas Jr. of Rota was recently accepted to the Hawaii Job Corps Program and departed on Aug. 3 to begin his career technical training in the automotive industry at the Waimanalo campus. Patricia Jan Somorang of Saipan received her acceptance in October of last year. She is enrolled in the Culinary Arts program at the Maui campus.

There are currently four students from the CNMI in the program. Interested individuals are encouraged to register with the Department of Labor Workforce Investment Agency Division.

Registration forms may be downloaded at www.wia.gov.mp or visit their office on Capitol Hill Bldg 1215. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REVISED
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-016

TYPHOON SOUDELOR PERMANENT RESTORATION PROJECT
CUC POWER PLANTS 1, 2, AND 4
SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced construction firms for the Typhoon Soudelor Permanent Restoration Project for CUC Power Plant Nos. 1 and 2, located at Lower Base and No. 4, located at Puerto Rico, Saipan, CNMI.

The Contractor shall provide and pay for all labor, materials, tools, equipment, transportation, temporary construction of every nature, and all other services and facilities necessary to execute, complete and deliver the work within the specified time frame.

A **mandatory pre-proposal conference** will be conducted at the CUC Power Plant Administration Building in Lower Base, Saipan on **August 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., ChST.** Immediately after the conference, Site Visits to Power Plant facilities will be arranged. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID.

One (1) original and Five (6) hard copies and 1 Compact Disc (CD) of the entire submission in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC RFP-16-016 Typhoon Soudelor Permanent Restoration Project, CUC Power Plants 1, 2, and 4*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 31, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

The awarded Proposer will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – https://marianaslabor.net/.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 19, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-018

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. *OMB Circular A-133*
2. *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
3. *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*

The date of contract award will be no later than September 15, 2016. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-16-018, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016"to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on September 9, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 26, 2016** to Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 with a copy to Joann Paraiso, CUC Acting Chief Financial Officer, via email address joanne.paraiso@cucgov.org and Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Tinian mayor San Nicolas supports marijuana bill

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas became the first local chief executive to throw his support for Senate Bill 19-106 or the regulation of marijuana in the CNMI. SB 19-106 was pre-filed by Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), who is pushing for the personal use and decriminalization of the illegal substance in the CNMI.

San Nicolas said that he had already informed Senate President Francisco M. Borja (Ind-Tinian) that he fully supports the intent of SB 19-106 or the Commonwealth Marijuana Regulation Act, which is proposing to end marijuana prohibition and give CNMI residents access to use it legally.

"I'm giving my full endorsement of the intent of this bill. As a former attorney general, I have seen first hand the economic and social costs of prohibition whether it is from resources spent on arrests and prosecution or the consequences on employability as a result of a single marijuana arrest," said San Nicolas.

San Nicolas

He added that the CNMI's resources should be diverted in fighting crystal meth or "ice," which is a far more dangerous and lethal illegal substance. "I believe money spent on the continued prohibition of marijuana is better utilized to stop the sale of crystal meth and rehabilitation of our people addicted to this drug."

San Nicolas said a lot of arguments have been made from both the pro and anti legalization groups even at the national level. Currently, 25 states and the District of Columbia have legalized marijuana for medical use with Guam being the first territory to do so.

"There are merits to both sides of the arguments which I will not rehash here but I am not convinced that the continued prohibition and decriminalization serves a beneficial purpose. The science supporting medical use are significant," said San Nicolas.

"Four states have fully ended the prohibition of marijuana by allowing recreational use reaping substantial economic benefits. These are notable considerations given the precarious state of our economy and the types of physical ailments that members of our community are suffering from."

He added that, if legalized, he expects there would be issues and problems in the implementation and enforcement just like in any new regulation.

"These challenges, however, are not insurmountable and should not be an impediment to allowing, at the very least, the people of the CNMI to decide on this very important issue," San Nicolas said.

Igisomar pre-filed the bill as he wants to legalize and decriminalize personal use of marijuana, which would allow people—especially patients that are being treated with ailments like glaucoma and epilepsy—to carry less than ounce.

Student filmakers honored in SOU' Fest

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Student filmakers were honored last Saturday night during the SOU' Fest, commemoration of Typhoon Soudelor, at the Marianas Business Plaza parking lot. The event was moved to the former Nauru Building from the Garapan Fishing Base due to inclement weather.

The Film Festival is in cooperation with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and part of its 2nd Annual Humanities Film Festival with "Soudelor and the Winds of Change in the CNMI" as this year's theme.

Casey Drew Huliganga and Jerico Montenejo's entry *Typhoon Soudelor: The Documentary* and Jobelle Tabuena's *Saipan Strong* submissions were the biggest winners after being named co-first placers. The Huliganga-Montenejo team and Tabuena received $500 each.

Huliganga and Montenejo said they worked on their entry in a short amount of time after being informed by their Marianas High School teacher Michelle Taisacan.

JON PEREZ

From left, Jerico Montenejo, Jobelle Tabuena, and Casey Drew Huliganga are the top winners in the 2nd Annual Humanities Film Festival with the theme *Soudelor and the Winds of Change in the CNMI.* Also in photo are Northern Marianas Humanities Council vice chair Frankie Eliptico, right, and Dr. Brady Hammond who were part of the judges panel.

"Our teacher, Ms. Taisacan informed us about the contest so we went to work. It only took us one week to finish the documentary. We had two days of shooting and the rest was for editing," said Montenejo.

"But we learned that they extended the deadlines so we made some minor changes before we submitted the final entry," added Huliganga.

Despite the short preparation time, the delegation of tasks made for very efficient and effective decisions, the duo earned the nod of the judges—Mt. Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, NMHC chair Frankie Eliptico, and Dr. Brady Hammond.

"It's a collaboration. I'm in charge of the shots and the story that we wanted to present and Jerico is the one who edited the final cut," says Huliganga, who said that he has a passion for film making and even plans to go to film school in college.

Montenejo, on the other hand, has many talents with editing and dancing among them. Both are incoming juniors at MHS.

Angela Felici M. Cruz (*Saipan and the Gales of Typhoon Soudelor*), and Agape Christian School students En Hao Feng, Tian Bo Zhang, Bei Bei Chen (*Blown Away*) were tied for second place. Cruz and the ACS trio went home with $350 each.

The husband-and-wife tandem of Glenn and Sveta Hunter were also big winners. Glenn's *CORE HEAL SAIPAN* was the Film Fest's best in narrative winner, while Sveta's *Soudelor Saipan Strong* was best documentary. They won $1,000 each.

22 set to receive hospitality specialty course certification

The Summer 2016 cohort of the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute's Hospitality Specialty Course's certification and pin ceremony will be held on Aug. 16, 2016 at Kanoa Resort's Seaside Hall.

According to Maureen E. Sebangiol, Island Training Solutions administrator, "This internship program is offered by the Department of Commerce to local workers who are currently working in the hotel industry and who want to hone their skills and give them an opportunity for career advancement in the future. The internship lasted for three weeks, and was held in participants' current workplace."

A total of 22 graduates will receive their globally recognized certification in one of the three areas of resort/hotel operations: food server, guest room attendant, and front desk attendant.

The AHLEI certification course is provided in cooperation with the CNMI Public School System and the Latte Training Academy. Students, juniors or seniors, who completed the AHLEI program and received the globally recognized certification that could secure employment in the hospitality industry.

PSS funds the program where typically students from Kagman High School, Marianas High School, and Saipan Southern High School can be admitted. The program started with 17 students from the three high schools in 2014. ***(Joan L. Taitano)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 10, 2000

Bill easing licensing of foreign doctors scrapped

The House of Representatives yesterday scrapped legislation seeking to grant temporary permit to foreign doctors to practice in the CNMI, claiming medical practitioners based on the islands are competent to meet the needs of anticipated retirement communities here. A report by the House Committee on Health and Welfare said the present licensing scheme for doctors has enough safeguards against medical fraud and injury that ensure effective delivery of health care to residents and visitors. While praising the effort to provide much-needed services to foreign retirees who may want to settle here, the committee believed giving exemption to doctors catering to this particular group is not proper.

BOE endorses wider scope of free public education

The State Board of Education has moved to stretch the maximum age for free public education from 5 to 18 from the current 6 to 16, in support of a House initiative aimed at overhauling the public education sector. Since public education is free for resident CNMI children up to the time they reach 12th grade, BOE and the Public School System have agreed to widen the age requirement to encourage all students to graduate from high school. According to public school officials, every person within the Northern Mariana Islands who is between the 5 and 18 years old has the right to free public education. Meanwhile, education leaders have objected to a provision of H.B. 12-158 that seeks to task the board to establish and maintain within each school year an annual instructional calendar of no less than 180 instructional days of class periods for students.

August 10, 2004

MPLA stalls for more time in House probe

The Marianas Public Lands Authority has asked for an extension on its deadline to submit certain documents to the House of Representatives' investigation committee. Committee chair Rep. Clyde Norita said that MPLA, which was required to submit documents last Friday following a subpoena, asked for the deadline to be extended to Aug. 11. The Department of Health, meantime, which also received a subpoena, was able to turn in the required documents as scheduled, the lawmaker said.

La Fiesta: A $3.5M investment that can't just be abandoned

Gov. Juan N. Babauta favors using the La Fiesta complex in San Roque as a campus for the Northern Marianas College. "The governor supports La Fiesta as a campus. He's always been supportive of it, working with NMC and the Legislature to make things happen," said public information officer Pete C. Callaghan yesterday. The governor, who met with NMC president Tony Deleon Guerrero and House Education Committee chair Justo Quitugua yesterday morning, has designated senior policy adviser Bob Schwalbach to work with the Legislature in identifying funds for NMC. The college is asking anew for additional money to operate La Fiesta up to December this year. NMC said it would need a total of $350,000: $200,000 for La Fiesta's annual lease payment on or before Oct. 31 and $150,000 as operational budget from October to December. The college has been getting its operational funds for the new facility from the Executive Branch since December 2003.

August 10, 2005

'Peace city' councilors here for world peace

Twenty-two councilors from Osaka, Japan, are on the island to honor the memory of their countrymen who died during World War II and the group hopes that, through their mission, they will be able to contribute to world peace. Secretary general and fellow councilor Akinori Daimaru said it was a first for the councilors from Osaka City, dubbed as the Peace City in Japan, to visit Saipan. He said the visit is part of their long-running mission of promoting peace all over the world. Daimaru said when Osaka City was declared a Peace City 10 years ago, it has become their goal to extend their mission of peace to the world, especially with the ongoing war in Iraq. He said the councilors' visit is in time for the 60th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombing that ended World War II. He said Saipan is the first city the group has visited to execute their mission.

CPA fire department gets Pro-Board accreditation

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has been fully accredited to certify firefighting personnel in accordance with the criteria established by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualification, also known as the Pro-Board.

Effective July 22, 2005, CPA now has the full authority under the Pro-Board accreditation program to certify the following level of fire fighters: fire fighter 1 and 2, airport firefighter, driver/operator of aircraft rescue and firefighting vehicles, fire officer 1 and 2, fire instructor 1 and 2, and fire inspector 1 and 2.

Prior to receiving full accreditation, CPA's Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Department was given permission by the Pro-Board a temporary delegation of authority to certify fire personnel.

Humanities Council to get $346,690 NEH grant

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) announced yesterday that the Northern Marianas Humanities Council is receiving a $346,690 grant through the National Endowment for the Humanities. The funding will support the council's wide range of public humanities programs in the Marianas.

Sablan made the announcement together with Frankie Eliptico, chairman of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council Board of Directors.

"The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is celebrating its 25th anniversary of making the humanities come alive for our community," Sablan said. "And the grant we are announcing today will allow the Council to continue this good work.

"The grant was highly competitive and involved a rigorous peer review and selection process," Sablan added. "I congratulate everyone at the Humanities Council who worked on the application."

According to Eliptico,"The funding from the NEH allows the Northern Marianas Humanities Council to offer new programs and expand existing ones that engage residents of all ages through a variety of humanities activities and events."

In fact, Sablan and the Humanities Council is already cooperating on new initiatives that will support Marianas veterans and their families and raise public understanding about military service, the experience of war, and the challenges of returning home.

In October the council will screen the award-winning film *Almost Sunrise*, a documentary that follows the journey of two combat veterans struggling with post-traumatic stress and moral injury, and their search for healing and redemption as they trek across America. The screening will be followed by a series of resiliency building workshops led by Project Welcome Home Troops, for Marianas veterans, active duty personnel, reservists, and family members.

There are also plans underway for a Veteran Resource Fair, and seminars to train community members to record the personal experiences of Marianas veterans for the ongoing Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress.

"We take a broad view of the humanities," Sablan said. "The humanities help us appreciate the many aspects of our history and culture, understand where we are today as a community and as individuals, and look ahead to where we are going."

Sablan is a former Humanities Council board member.

Council-run projects over the years include the Motheread family literacy program, the Marianas History Conference, the Micronesian Authors Initiative, the Sengebau Poetry Competition, the Humanities Half-Hour radio show, film festivals, community lectures, and various student projects.

In addition, the council provides matching grants to other community organizations to conduct their own humanities-related programs.

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency that is also celebrating an important milestone this year—its 50th anniversary. The NEH supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities.

"NEH grants enable Americans across the country to have compelling humanities experiences that communicate the lessons of history and culture through books, films, websites, classrooms, museums, and libraries," said NEH Chairman William D. Adams.

For more information about the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, visit www.northernmarianashumanities.org. For more information about the National Endowment for the Humanities, visit www.neh.gov. For more information about the Veterans History Project and other veterans programs, contact the congressional office at Kilili@mail.house.gov or (670) 323-2647. ***(PR)***

Pacific Community scientists join Japanese research exploration

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—Two scientists from the Pacific Community's (SPC) Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) Division, Drs. Tim Pickering and Elodie Vourey, will participate in a research expedition onboard the University of Tokyo oceanographic research vessel, *Hakuho Maru*.

During the voyage from Noumea, New Caledonia to Pago Pago in American Samoa, Pickering's research will focus on South Pacific freshwater eels that migrate between freshwater and saltwater during spawning periods.

One of the objectives of this scientific exploration is to discover the spawning grounds of South Pacific freshwater eels and to obtain genetic samples of eel larvae in an effort to better understand the genetic relationships and evolution of eels.

Knowledge of breeding and life cycles is fundamental to science-based fisheries management but to date, there has not been any systematic research done on South Pacific eels.

"SPC has been participating in a South Pacific eels research network of international experts and recently hosted the third meeting of this network in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific. Our involvement in this network and our facilitation of Pacific students to study in Japan on eel topics led to an invitation to join some prominent eel experts to participate in this research," Pickering said.

"The South Pacific is the last frontier of freshwater eel research. SPC member governments and administrations need scientific information or capacity to make policies for conservation and management of eels, so international collaboration is necessary," he added.

While the main focus of the scientific exploration is to acquire more knowledge on eel spawning grounds, the nets used to collect the eel larvae at sea also gather other species of fish, squid and crustaceans.

Vourey will board the *Hakuho Maru* on the third leg of the voyage between Pago Pago and Papeete (French Polynesia) to work on micronekton (small organisms such as fish, squid, crustaceans and gelatinous organisms) that are consumed by tuna.

"SPC's Oceanic Fisheries Programme took this opportunity to collect micronekton across the Pacific to acquire knowledge on the spatial distribution and species composition of the tuna forage. By increasing our understanding of the tuna forage, we are in a better position to forecast the tuna movements which are in permanent quest for food," Vourey said.

"This is the second Japanese research cruise we are involved in, the previous one being in 2013, and by collecting micronekton in the region on a regular basis it gives us a tool to monitor the changes occurring in the ecosystem and to understand the impact of those changes on the tuna resource," she said.

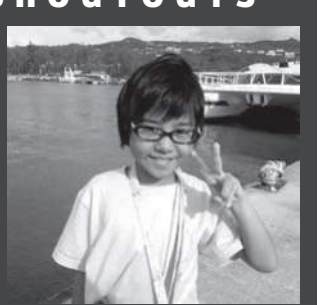
A crew from Japan's largest broadcasting organization, NHK, will also cover the voyage.

The *Hakuho Maru* departed Noumea on Aug. 4 and will make stops in Pago Pago on Aug. 17 and Papeete on Sept. 12, before returning to Japan in early October. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 10th birthday Lenelle dl.C Bansil. May God bless you with lots of love today and always. We love you always, Mommy, Daddy, Leo, Lea, and the rest of the family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings go out to Takara Moriyama who is turning 10 years old today. She is Japanese and a fourth grader at Mount Carmel School.

MEDIA GRAND TOUR

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. recently hosted a travel and media consortium from the Philippines to experience the best island life could offer. BSI marketing director of strategic planning for Guam & Philippines Brad Wilson led the tour aboard BSI's luxury yacht *Grand Mariana* for Angelica Bayona of *Travelife Magazine*; Augusto Ong of *Vacation Club*; Ricky Tio of *Cebu Holidays Travel*; Christine Dayrit of *The Philippine Star*; Ressa Guerrero; Madeline Yvette Chua of *Asian Diver Magazine*, Jhaytee Wong of *MTTS Travel*; Winnie Wilson, Tom Gao, Christina Tudela of BSI, Emerose Deleon Guerrero of *Impact Travel*; Abraham Ong of MVA Philippines, and Rod Ornopia of BSI.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVI, Issue No. 158

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Iran, captive Americans and $400 million

Secretary of State John Kerry extolled "diplomacy's power" in January when Iran freed several imprisoned Americans, including Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian. But was it the power of diplomacy that cinched the release — or was it the might of $400 million in cash?

Brief background: In January, the U.S. dispatched a cargo plane loaded with $400 million in foreign currency to Iran, The Wall Street Journal reports. This happened just as the Iranian nuclear deal with the West kicked in and economic sanctions lifted. The payment was portrayed by the U.S. as a partial settlement in a decades-old Iranian claim over a soured deal to buy U.S. military equipment.

But the timing of the payment prompted senior Justice Department officials to object, according to the Journal. "People knew what it was going to look like, and there was concern the Iranians probably did consider it a ransom payment," one official told the paper.

That's exactly how senior Iranian defense officials have reportedly described it publicly since then.

President Barack Obama denies a quid pro quo, citing longstanding policy that the U.S. doesn't pay ransoms. But, Jonathan Tobin writes in Commentary magazine, reality may be different: "Paying ransoms to terrorists or terrorist regimes is a practice that, at least in theory, the U.S. opposes. But like Israeli governments who also talk tough about not negotiating but then agree to lopsided deals, American leaders usually pay up if that is the only way to gain the release of U.S. hostages."

But this deal's done. The money's safely in Tehran, where it may help the mullahs bankroll terrorists around the globe. The recriminations over whether it was or wasn't a ransom payment likely will subside. What remains important:

—Iran took Americans as de facto hostages. They were innocents arrested and held on trumped-up charges; Rezaian was convicted in a secret trial.

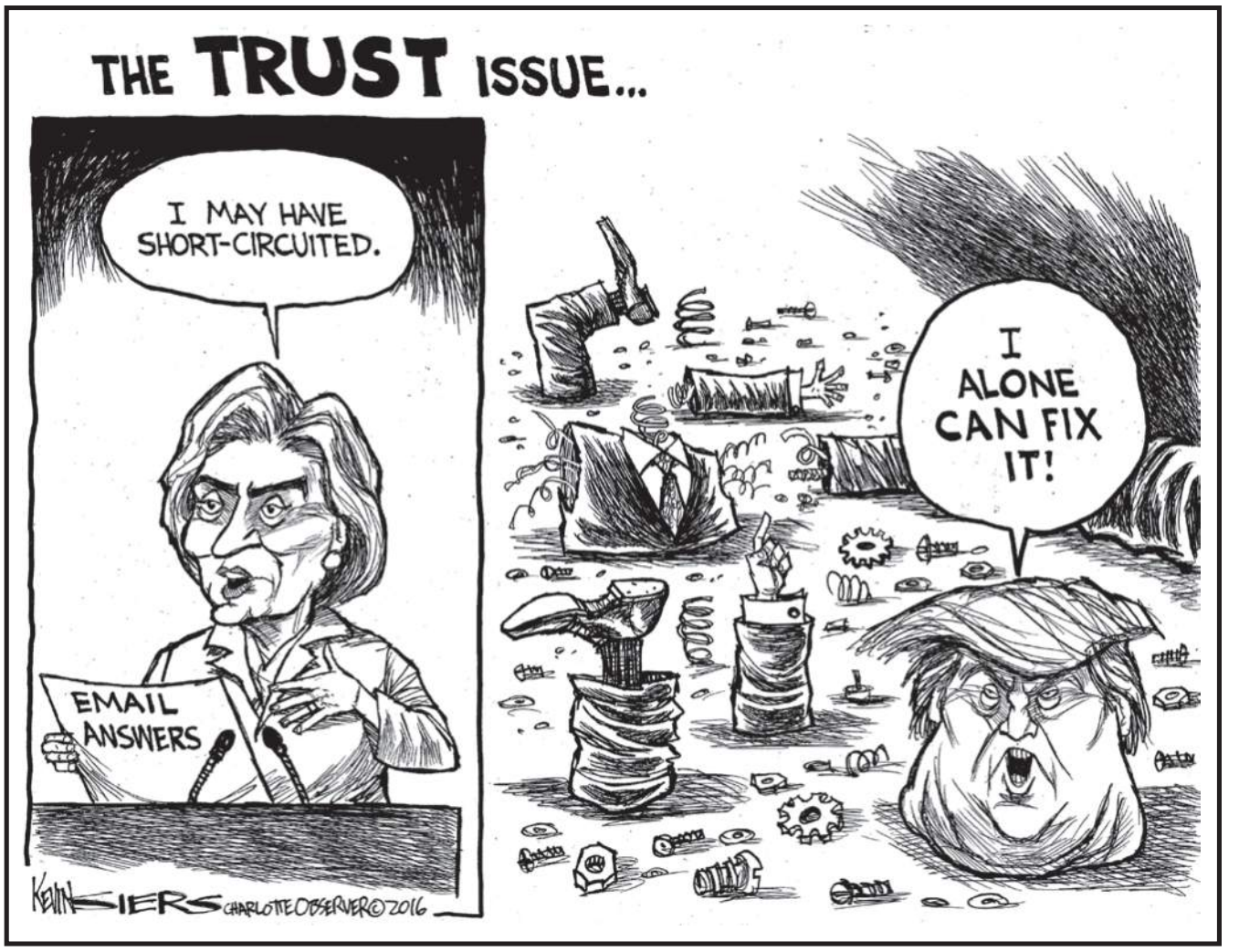
—The $400 million that the U.S. paid to help settle the claim or to gain the release — or both — is a pittance compared with the frozen billions released to Iran in the nuclear deal, and the billions more that could flow into Iran's economy as Western companies return there in force.

But Iran isn't satisfied. Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is now furiously backpedaling from the deal he once embraced. He accuses the U.S. of "breaching" its pledges and "obstructing and damaging Iran's economic relations with other countries."

Khamenei's gripes aren't new. In April, he demanded that the Obama administration help make Tehran's financial dealings with foreign companies and banks easier by allowing transactions involving dollars in certain circumstances. We argued against that relaxation because Iran hadn't earned any favors from the U.S. It still hasn't.

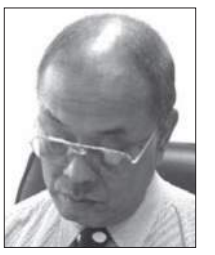
Today, Iran is struggling to find financing from foreign

See IRAN on Next Page



Mapgau Katdumin Republican

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Guaha seriosu motibu na megai na kandidatun republican man-huyuñg ya manmalalagu independente na biahen eleksion.

Mapgau i hagas inetnun kulan fanihe gi sabana. Kasi dose na independente guaha ni ma-abandona pattidan niha republican. Nina`e lokue` democrats dañkulu na kampu umafulu` gi hilu` plaset estrakadan politika. Man-mauleg lokue` kandidatuña.

Asegurau na areran para u fañogñug i batkun republican na eleksion. Dañkulu probleman sanhalum `nai matgan i katdumi. I ma`pi` pisun simientu ni hafa na satbabida siña lumimienda.

Desde Ineru gi otru sakan siempre fotmat na geran para umana` kesnuda este na administrasion. Layeye este pot manfitigau i publiku ni chinatsagan diskuidun man-ma`gas!

Yangin guaha guinefin para umakontinua i presente pileha yan tropa gef atan sa` ni kuantu na areglu gi hilu` kubietta (deck of the ship), esta gaige gi fondun tasi enteru kuetpu. Ti bali maareglan siya `nai mafondu esta i batku. Guse`ña kinililí` ni metgot na kurentin sanpapa`.

Haf` `ste na mapuan batkun republican na milag hanum ginen i sabana ni umahnanau esta i fondun tasi. Magpu` kontodu lisalun `las dose gi tatalu` pueñge!

Fatigau I Publiku

Ti mapot mapesa sentimentun i publiku gi halum te`ug na fachi` sapet yan diariu na chinatsaga. Ti malagu` niha este na estau na mattu giya siha soluke ginen kabisiyun imperadot hegsu` I Deni`.

Sige mahatsan sueddun niha mientras i publiku tai nina` siña fuera ke para u ñgaha` hulu` gi lañget man-gagau ausiliu. Man-malefa hamyu na kada familia gai obligasion desde primet guma`, kareta yan nesessidat famaguon niha?

Nukeru siha i lehislatura ni minamanda ni republican pa`gu sa` kada unu hagagana $90,500 I sakan. I dos paire gi administrasion lokue` sessu makondukta che`chu` niha gi halum ruplanu. Ayu na maletke hospitat CHC ya mangupu para Manila yan otru siha hospitat hiyuñg Marianas. Kulan maseñala hospitat CHC para man-otdinariu yan popbli. Dios mihu!

Presisu Na Inbestigasion:

I anunsiu ginen mayot iya Luta pot matahguen direktot finance ala kuenta ha bohau i lalu` gi oriyan kantarun basula. Kumeke ilegña na guaha malumot mina` manadan lalu` mangugupu. Yangin gasgas pues ti u fattu i la`lu`.

Lau oppan mansañgan na guaha ti mañgombeni siha na disposision fondun publiku gi tiempun Señora Vivian Hokog. Kuestion: Haf` na atrasau i mayot chumule` prontu aksion para una` ma-inbestiga este na asuntu? Yangin huegun politika, mauleg ta ketuñgu` haf` `nau na huegu. Obligasionmu prumutehe inosiente na taxpayers siha!

Yangin guaha chinatsaga pot suspichosu na disposision, hafa señot planumu para un` reskata i tineteka na fondun publiku? Kau planun para umabali este guatu gi papa` karpet? Bai faisen dibuenamente i AG yan OPA na uma-inbestiga este na asuntu ya u guaha inbestigasion yan ligat na disposision gi haf` sineda` niha.

Sumen na`mamahlau para uma-apudera sino kodisiu inapasen aduana (taxes) ni publiku ni kanaha` hapupunu` siha manmanaligau mantension familian niha mismu! Pot fabot debi u guaha ensegidas inbestigasion ya umana` klaru kau guaha enfin usun fondun publiku iligat.

`Nai popble I tanu`

I papulasion iya Filipinas ennau i 100 miyon na tautau. Mas ke lamita man-mamatmus gi halum fachi` pinepble. Poresu na animu ma-ayuda ni bankun iya Asia (Asia Development Bank) pot para u prebeniye tautauña modun adelantun linala`.

Hulí`e tirun pinepble gi manadan lugat guihe. Megai mannamase`. Tihu komprende pinepbleña lau riku na tanu` manmauleg siha na mina kontodu laña. Sige hu guadog haf` taimanu na megai man-mamatmus gi fachi chinatsaga.

Dispues `nai klaru haf` che`chu` man-riku yan man-ma`gas politika gi tautau niha. I fumatinas eskaleran galun politika dumaña yan man-riku maprotehe mismu pisun linala` niha. I sepblanten este na grupu i ma-ususune ni mamopble. Ni siha ti u fañguentos pot no uma-estotba i man-nana`e maseha ni achog sopblan basula.

I programa yan fondu para ayudu gi mamopble ti ayudu ni unabes pot rason na i sistema ni ma-establese chagu` yan haf` intension. Kumeke ileghu na yangin pot para u ayuda adelantun

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

If Hillary Clinton wins, can she claim a 'mandate'?

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. *Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com*

Last week could have been a bad one for Hillary Clinton: a disappointing economic growth report, a misleading answer to a question about her emails — she claimed the FBI director called her "truthful" — and a controversy over U.S. payments to Iran.

But Donald Trump rescued her by seizing the spotlight with his own, bigger fumbles: his scraps with Gold Star parents, fire marshals and a crying baby; his feud with House Speaker Paul Ryan.

All Clinton had to do was follow one of the oldest rules of politics: If your opponent is hurting himself, get out of the way. Or, even better, draw attention to his flaws.

As she talked about her jobs program on the campaign trail — a long, wonky list, from infrastructure spending to solar energy — Clinton made sure to mention Trump's name as often as possible.

In Denver, she visited a necktie factory and, brandishing a Trump Collection tie labeled "Made in China," repeated a line from her convention speech: "If he wants to make America great again, he should start by making things in America."

In Las Vegas, she talked about new job training programs for blue-collar workers, and again pivoted to a contrast: "Look at Trump University," she said.

The underlying message wasn't hard to find: Voters, you may not love Hillary Clinton, but she's not Donald Trump.

Now the Clinton campaign is feeling so confident that it has stopped spending money on television advertising in Colorado and Virginia, states that initially were thought to be close.

"Not Donald Trump," it turns out, may be enough of a platform to win.

But it comes with a potential cost. By focusing on the other guy's flaws, Clinton may fail to build a strong mandate for her agenda, including higher taxes for upper-income earners, a $275 billion infrastructure program and comprehensive immigration reform.

Republicans in Congress (depending on how many survive) will be able to claim that Clinton won the White House only because the GOP nominated the wrong candidate, and that the American people aren't on board with her proposals — some of which they might not even know about.

Indeed, there are parts of Clinton's economic platform that she barely mentions.

One of her most intriguing ideas is a package of tax incentives to nudge American businesses to make decisions aimed at long-term growth instead of short-term returns, a problem she has called "quarterly capitalism." Early in the campaign, she suggested changing capital gains tax rates to penalize investors who hold assets for less than six years and imposing a tax on high-frequency financial transactions.

If Clinton wants the next Congress to act on those ideas, she needs to be talking about them now — but she isn't. Over time, her economic program has become less precise, not more.

That's partly because she's trying to build the broadest coalition she can, from Bernie Sanders supporters on the left to Republicans-for-Hillary on the right.

At the Democratic convention in Philadelphia, fresh from a bruising effort to win Sanders's endorsement, Clinton sounded like a genuine progressive. "I believe that our economy isn't working the way it should because our democracy isn't working the way it should," she said, echoing one of Sanders's themes.

But in Omaha, Neb., last week, with billionaire investor Warren Buffett by her side, she sounded more like, well, a Clinton. "Small businesses are the backbone of this economy, and I want to be a small business president," she said.

In Johnstown, Pa., she promised to "say no to unfair trade deals," but did not repeat her commitment to block the Trans Pacific Partnership, President Obama's proposed trade deal with Asia. (Sanders, who opposes TPP, says he'll keep pressure on Clinton to make sure the agreement stays dead.)

Clinton is running a characteristically prudent presidential campaign. Her aides say they can't afford to assume that Trump will continue to commit self-inflicted injuries. They say it's still likely to be a close election; they don't expect her wide lead in most polls to last. They think keeping voters focused on Trump's non-presidential temperament is the best way to ensure he loses.

As a matter of short-term politics, they're probably right. But it would be a bitter irony if Clinton, a champion of long-term thinking in business, were to wake up after Election Day and discover that, by gearing her campaign to immediate gains, she had squandered an opportunity to enact lasting change.

MAPGAU

From Page 10

tradision na modun linala` tat kumu hagas fangualu`an pues ti umasusedi. I finañagun este na ayudu puru pot moseria `nai ha muebague` i pepble para u la`la`.

Man-dikiki` na fina` bisnes manma-establisa. Taigue che`chu` fangualu`an. Guse`ña `nos kuantos mandikiki` na fakteria siha ni kumone i tautau man-macho`chu`. I intension mauleg lau i sistema ti maseñala para u afagcha` yan planu siha gi manma-establesi na programa. Enfin gumuaha fina moseria para i tautau niha.

Dañkulu na chanda i hafafana` gobietnamentun iya Filipinas pot moseria para i tautauña siha. Poresu na mas ke tres miyon gi tautau niha manmachochochu` gi otru siha na tanu` kontodu guine giya Marianas.

Sombra Petmanente: Dos sombra petmanente cheton gi hinasog-hu: troñkun niyog yan lemai. Este i dos troñku satbasion mame antes piot `nai hokog pugas. In` feddus i leman man-mañgan ham para saibog gi fina` sena. Debi bai` in` hekka i niyog para umaleche i lemai. Kulan dos kanai, agapa` yan akague. Mas libianu in` ñgañgas yan pañot `an guaha katdun pañglau, guihan sino satdinas.

Hagas man-gaige ayu siha na troñkun lemai antes de bai`n fan echu tautau. Esta pa`gu manatachu gi mismu lugat gi Lali Fo`. Esta hana` mahalañg-yu` ni hagas bisinu antes `nai malofan-yu guine gi alacha. Lau todu esta man-amku` mame guihe (na tiempu) man-hanau para i taihinekog na deskansun niha. Siha pumulan ham antes gi hagas soñgsoñg.

`An un` atan i niyog gaige i troñku, hagun, hagasas, punut, gunut, manha, ma`sun yan pontan. Megai usuña i troñku lau i mafabrikaña taimanu antes hagas maliñgu. Lau mauleg na fina` usun mirienda desde chigo`ña yan sensin manha pat para ahu. I pontan tana sesetbe gi manalagun katdun guihan, katne, saibog a`gun haya yan laña.

I troñkun lemai ma-u`usa para galaide`. Ayu ma-u`utut i dañkulu ni gaige gi halom tanu`. Ma-utut ya mabatsala papa` esta i kantun tasi. Dispues man-halom i para u sinifan ya matutuhon che`chu` niha. Tinaka` tiempu estake para u fonhayan kabales ennau na galaide. Siempre u fan daña i maestron tasi `an malagnos huyuñg para umatatpañge primet karera gi halom laguna.

IRAN

From Page 10

banks still skeptical about doing business with the repressive regime. Deals for Iran to buy more than 200 jetliners from Boeing and Airbus are up in the air after the U.S. House passed a bill in July aimed at blocking the sales. The price of oil, Iran's lifeblood, is down.

One unfortunate solution to economic doldrums? Iran has taken yet more Americans captive in recent months and demanded the release of another $2 billion.

The new victims include Reza "Robin" Shahini, of San Diego, who went to Iran to visit his ailing mother in May. On July 11, he was arrested on suspicion of crimes against Iran, The Washington Post reports. Two other U.S. citizens and several dual nationals from Britain, Canada and France are also being held, the paper says.

So don't be surprised if the mullahs press their new demands — and take still more Americans prisoner.

They did get the $400 million.

©2016 *Chicago Tribune*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appreciation message to participants

This is to express our sincere gratitude to all participants of the first sunset celebration of the Carolinian songs from the traditional to the contemporary music held last July at the Carolinian Utt, which was co-sponsored by the Rematao Music Society, Inc.

This includes the different Carolinian singing artists from young to old like Alfred Saures, Rodney Ilo, Archelene, Jonathan "J.J." Joe Norita, Aguon, Raymond Peter, Abdon Kaipat, and Emi Palican.

They showcased the favorite songs from the '60s to the '80s and even the present recording songs. It was a good crowd and many of them were shouting: "extend more hours" singing and dancing. We are grateful that not only Carolinians participants, but they were a mix of Filipinos, Chamorros, Chinese, Koreans, Americans, and even our Micronesian brothers were enjoying themselves.

We also extend our Ghirisow and Si Yuus Ma'ase to the executive assistant to Carolinian Affairs Office, HJuan Itibus Tagabuel, and the Governor's Office. We cannot forget to also thank our sponsors of the sound system, Marvin Seman; Coca Cola and other hard-working members of the Rematao Music Society, Inc. that coordinated and contributed local food and drinks. Thank you again and God bless us all.

Jesus M. Elameto
Rematao Music Society, Inc. president

Politics – election year 2016

Well, the election campaign signs have started showing up, set up by candidates aspiring to represent us, "We, the People." This aspiration, is it for an easy, well-paying job requiring very little effort? For the legislators up for re-election—what have you done? Very little? How much "very little?" Not much?

Adding your name to a bill as a co-sponsor does not really amount to anything, and given that so many bills were designed to spend public funds, it leaves us wondering if we can ever get out of this financial and economic doldrums we seem to be stuck in. Where is our revenue coming from for our infrastructure, our CIP, our CUC, our CCHC? Revenue comes from various taxes or fees.

Who are we taxing big time, who are we not? How much is the "not?" And for how long no tax? We lost on BSI. We also lost on the BSI-Kan Pacific deal. Did we offer a tax incentive to someone else, too? We should stop that. We're really toying with revenue. It's the livelihood of our government, and us, too. Because of election year politics, the perennial economic problems once again have been tabled till after the election. What is our economic problems?

We don't have enough in-coming money to enable our government to work on some more enterprising projects, or complete to everyone's satisfaction an improvement project. What is our dream? I say they are everything that will bring our government money so it could operate without juggling around the money to plug this or plug that project. Why then is it being set aside? Why not, with BSI pumping millions, do we really need to worry? The *man'amko* are being fed nicely and entertained happily. But what about our foreign workforce being slated to leave us? The answer is on the sideline, just waiting for something to happen. When our foreign workers leave here, group by group, do we need to worry about the very

See POLITICS on Page 13

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.
▲89° ▼79°

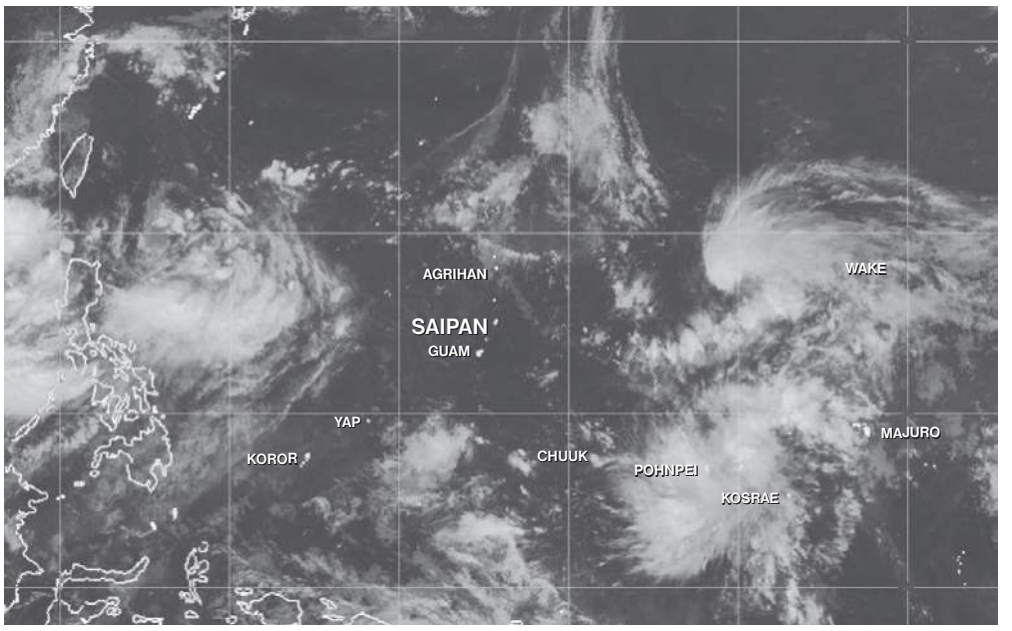
THURSDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. West winds 10 to 15 mph.
▲88° ▼79°

FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼79°

SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼79°

SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:50 AM, TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Monsoon flow is expected to predominate through the entire 7 day forecast period and evidently some time beyond. The monsoon flow is weak at this time, however it is expected to increase with time. Likely this will also result in increased shower activity. At this point it looks like the action will start over the weekend. As the winds and seas rise, there is a good chance we will end up with small craft and high surf advisories, just not in the next few days. Only changes to the forecast were to reduce clouds and showers and remove thunderstorms. Went ahead and refreshed the wave heights, although this resulted in only minor differences within the next 5 days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly sunny	81 / 91 °F
Palau	Afternoon clouds	82 / 86 °F
Yap	Heavy rain	81 / 90 °F
Chuuk	Partly sunny	81 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Heavy rain	78 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Sunny	82 / 86 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	79 / 85 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Mostly cloudy	48 / 52 °F
Beijing	Sunny	75 / 91 °F
Hong Kong	Strong thunderstorms	81 / 86 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	75 / 84 °F
London	Sunny	53 / 67 °F
Los Angeles	Morning clouds	61 / 78 °F
Manila	Rain showers	79 / 85 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	47 / 55 °F
Miami	Cloudy	82 / 89 °F
New York	Partly sunny	77 / 84 °F
Osaka	High level clouds	71 / 94 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	51 / 68 °F
Pusan	Scattered clouds	78 / 91 °F
Rome	Mostly sunny	61 / 88 °F
Salem	Morning clouds	56 / 80 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	55 / 68 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	76 / 92 °F
Tokyo	Afternoon clouds	78 / 92 °F
Washington, DC	High level clouds	74 / 91 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
12:09 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.75 Feet
7:11 AM	LOW TIDE	0.53 Feet
1:02 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.38 Feet
6:45 PM	LOW TIDE	0.84 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:01 AM	6:43 PM
Thursday	6:02 AM	6:43 PM
Friday	6:02 AM	6:42 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	11:51 AM	11:46 PM
Thursday	12:39 AM	-
Friday	1:28 PM	12:28 AM
Saturday	2:17 PM	1:12 AM
Sunday	3:08 PM	1:59 AM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
OZ6063	5:15pm	8:35pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ6053	10:35am	4:05pm	4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ESFDB's Let's Beat It Summer Camp 2016 a success

Educational experience, indoor/outdoor activities, healthy snack, camp out, and most importantly the fun and excitement made the Eskuelan San Francisco De Borja Summer Camp 2016 a success.

The eight-week ESFDB Summer Camp 2016m dubbed "Let's Beat It," for the Luta community children concluded on Thursday, Aug. 4, 2016 with a culmination ceremony at the Rota Round House.

The ceremony was witnessed by the camp participants parents and guests.

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja hosted its first summer camp program in 2012 and catering to the demand, it continued to provide the program offering a wide range of creative activities for children.

School principal Carmen H. Atalig had been taking the initiative to secure the necessary documents to apply for the federal grant. While some programs charge significant fees to attend summer camps, ESFDB summer camp program is free of charge because of the federal fund being granted.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Eskuelan San Francisco De Borja's Let's Beat It Summer Camp participants pose for a group photo.

"The ESFDB Let's Beat It Summer Camp 2016 was bittersweet for most kids, saying goodbye to old and new friends all while enjoying one of the greatest days of the summer," said Atalig.

"What makes our Summer Camp unique is the partnership from various government agencies. And in these government agencies we have people working from diverse cultures and various job expertise," added Atalig.

Atalig said, "The children coming out of the summer camp will be able to demonstrate the knowledge they had acquired from summer camp and promote and nurture positive impact toward their lives.

Furthermore, the summer camp provided a seminar for the parents to acquire some knowledge to help their children. It is important to network with the parents so they would follow up the skills being taught to their children.

"It's fulfilling to know Mrs. Atalig is always making these kids summer amazing with this summer camp experience for the children of the Luta community," said board chair Edward Maratita Jr.

According to Maratita, "One of the coolest parts of ESFDB Let's Beat It Summer Camp for me personally is, there is a big difference from what other summer camp have as to what we have; it makes you feel grateful for the educational activity."

"We want to make this summer camp attractive for the children so they'll remember that they did these type of activity or experience it at ESFDB Summer Camp," added Maratita.

Atalig was assisted by ESFDB's dedicated, professional, and veteran teachers/camp counselors Florinda Chavez, Monette Ladao, Mary Rose Lucero, and Lea Maratita.

Also helping out were youth camp leaders and volunteers Reziel Camacho, Rency Camacho, Michaela King, Liezel Hipolito, Joshua Puerto, Jezzel Candia, Jennylyn Candia, Ela San Nicolas, and A.J. San Nicolas.

The ESFDB Let's Beat It Summer Camp 2016 funding was made possible by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Child Care Development Fund.

ESFDB would like to express their appreciation to the parents, Mayor Efraim Atalig, Solly Nakamura of the NMC CRESS Program, Pauline Manglona, Jonovan Lizama, Clothilde Rosario, Carmen Cabrera, Tina Toves, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School principal Annette Calvo, Rota Veterans Affairs Office's Ryan Taisacan, Geraldine Dela Cruz, and Lucresia Munar. ***(PR)***

2 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Grotto Cave and Ladder beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

GTC Elementary School all set for SY 2016-2017

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School wishes to inform all GTC families to attend the upcoming orientation/open house on Friday, Aug. 12, 5pm in the school cafeteria.

Your attendance is highly encouraged as we will discuss important information for SY 2016-2017, meet teachers and staff, as well as clarify any questions you may have. Teachers will also be available in their classrooms to meet with students and parents/guardians to share expectations set for the new school year.

In addition, if you have not purchased your children's school supplies, you may avail of the list direct from Modern Stationery or National Office Supply. You are also welcome to drop by the school's main office to obtain a hard copy.

We are excited to start the new school year and look forward to seeing you all again! ***(PR)***

SIS gives its first Merit Scholarship

Congratulations to Phoenix Gross, the first Merit Scholarship winner at Saipan International School for 2016-17.

Merit scholarships are awarded to students demonstrating excellence in one or more of the following areas—academics, athletics, or achievement.

Gross has proven an outstanding student in all three of these areas. She has won several academic awards in her previous school, is a strong member of multiple sports teams and is a budding young musician. Gross will be joined at SIS by her two sisters, Victoria in grade 7, and Beatrice, who will be joining the school's new Kindergarten 3-5 program. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Phoenix Gross is the first Merit Scholarship winner at Saipan International School for 2016-17.

POLITICS

From Page 11

real possibility that we may end up losing more than half of our businesses and employees, and a huge chunk of the revenue that the government collects as well as the exodus jeopardizes not only current but future commercial developments? Or our governmental infrastructure? Dismantle CUC and send it back to DPW as before? Does not look like too many people are concerned, much less, worried.

So what's at stake? Too many to list but first and foremost are those issues and problems which demand action now, not in January 2017. A couple of the most critical include:

1. Our economy. Perhaps the single most critical issue we have now, our economy is hanging by a thread and is subject to many factors, most of which we do not and cannot control. One factor is the U.S. foreign and defense policies toward Russia and toward China. Our tourism market is primarily China and only because of the U.S. visa waiver program extended to the CNMI. Our investors need land and they need workers, both in short supply. How shall our government deal with these?

Our government wants to raise minimum wage, why? So all the prices for consumer goods and services will skyrocket and the consumers' purchasing power minimizes while employers reduce their staff as their costs for doing business goes up? I tell you, we're going to shoulder every cost that businesses incur. Cost of merchandise goes up to recoup renovation, costs, site improvements, etc., and with less employees. And in the end, we will end up getting less items from our money. Irrational and counter-productive? Many of those running for office do not care, they just want to massage (lasa) the public for votes. They will take care of themselves.

2. Our local workforce. Not enough people to maintain a viable workforce. Not enough locals for every single job in the CNMI. What is a "viable workforce?" That's enough people who could be masons, or industrial electricians, civil engineers, electrical engineers, mechanical engineers, carpenters, heavy or light equipment drivers, store or office clerks, accounting clerks, bank clerks, auto mechanics, etc. Meaning our people who could replace the CWs when they leave. Our CW program here has been a failure, that's right, a failure. What happened to the one-on-one training idea? When the U.S. took back control of our immigration system, they placed a chokehold on our economy, our growth, our chances at success in self-government and at the mercy once again of the federal government. Not exactly what we signed up for back in 1976.

So, the CW program will draw down to zero by 2019, that's only three-plus years away. Who will be left to deliver water, pick up trash, and build houses and business structures? Who will work in the small businesses, the hotels, the casino? Who will repair the roads? What about manning the CCHC? And CUC? And contract educators? China is not on the H2B program and if you're wondering, take a long hard look at how many H2Bs were approved for Guam since December 2015. Sobering. Well, not as long as the beer is flowing, I suppose.

Requesting more CW program extensions and slots will only delay the inevitable. What is the "inevitable?" It's the drop in population due to CW exodus, which will cause a domino effect. Population drops, employees drop, consumers drop, purchasing drops, merchandise up, room rents drop, lease buildings drop. There are, of course, two other options. One is to demand the return of our immigration control and the other-grant or avail of a permanent legal status to the workers already in the CNMI. At 2019, would the CWs go? What's going to happen to their American citizen children? Who is to be responsible for them when their non-U.S. citizen parents leave? The first requires leadership and the second scares the bejesus out of the locals who are horrified at the possibility of one day losing control of the seats in government to "non-locals" American citizen voting youngsters. But, doing nothing will only guarantee failure which will no doubt be the single most horrific event in our history, bankruptcies, job losses, rolling blackouts, and days without water while the cost of living will soar to astronomical heights. Are we ready for that?

So, if you're running for any public office this November, remember the goal—serve the public. That sometimes, you have to make unpopular but correct decisions. That's your job, if elected, not to cozy up to the businessmen from you know where as if business partners, or looking for a cut, not to bush-cut roadsides, or paint bus stops and basketball courts. Prioritize the issues and act with commitment. And don't forget accountability and open government.

If you're not sure, not qualified, not willing, do not read so as to avoid the glare of our CNMI problems, or are simply looking for a job or for recognition only, don't bother. We've had way too many already, the reason we're in the jam we are in now.

For our U.S. Congressman Kilili, remember us, not Palau. You will return to D.C., but you must represent us. We want a loud, aggressive personality with a rapier mind and booming voice like CDR Richard Marcinko (USN-Ret.) and Seal Team-Six. You have them. Have you ever heard of Alan "The Horse" Ameche, or "Crazy-leg" Hirsch? Be like them, too. For you, it's a "Go." Make us appreciate voting you.

Rudy M. Sablan
Garapan

Business

After outage, Delta seeks forgiveness with refunds, vouchers

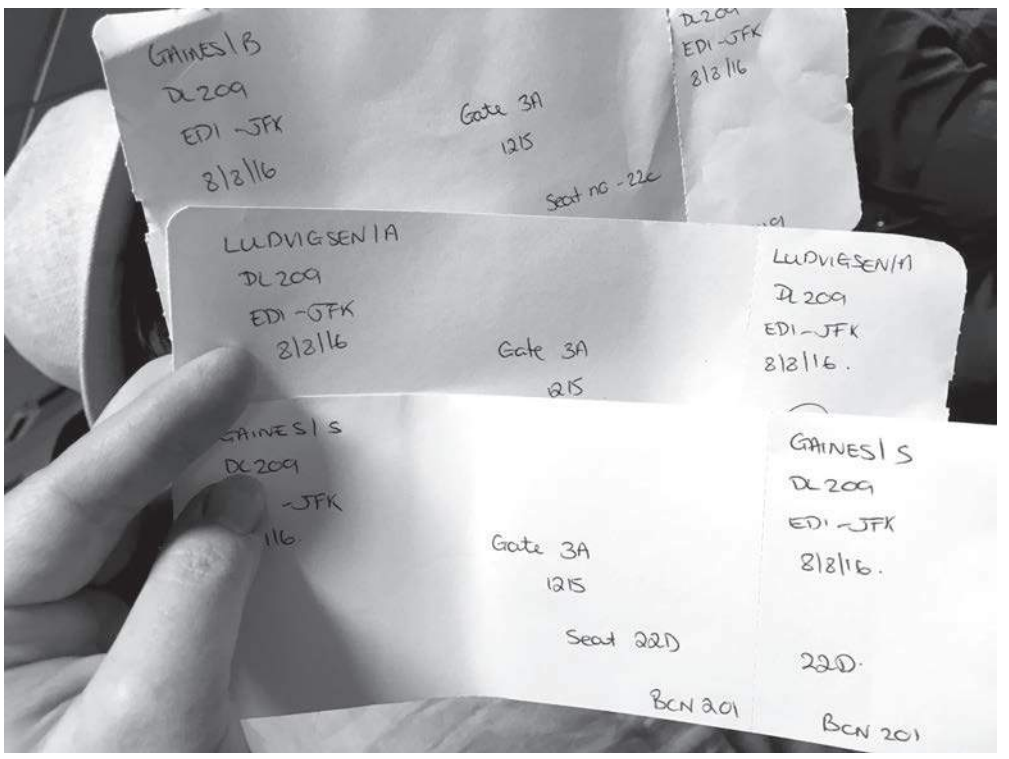
DALLAS (AP)—Delta Air Lines will be handing out refunds and travel vouchers as penance for the latest computer outage to knock a major airline off stride.

Delta canceled more than 700 flights and had 2,600 others delayed, some for hours, after a power outage Monday at its Atlanta headquarters caused many computer systems to crash.

The computer systems were working again a few hours later but Delta said it was still working to accommodate stranded passengers.

Its challenge Tuesday will be to find enough seats on planes during the busy summer vacation season to accommodate the tens of thousands of passengers whose flights were scrubbed. Last month, the average Delta flight was 87 percent full.

The airline posted a video apology by CEO Ed Bastian. And it offered refunds and $200 in travel vouchers to people whose flights were canceled or delayed at least three hours.



AP

In this photo provided by Barbara Gaines, Gaines holds handwritten boarding passes issued to her by Delta Air Lines, Monday, Aug. 8, 2016, at Edinburgh Airport, in Edinburgh, Scotland, for her trip to New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport.

For passengers, hardship from the early morning meltdown was compounded by the fact that Delta's flight-status updates weren't working either. Instead of being able to stay home, many passengers only learned about the flight problems when they arrived at the airport.

"By the time I showed up at the gate the employees were already disgruntled, and it was really difficult to get anybody to speak to me or get any information," said Ashley Roache, whose flight from Lexington, Kentucky, to New York's LaGuardia Airport was delayed.

"The company could have done a better job of explaining ... what was happening."

Delta spokesman Trebor Banstetter said that after a power outage at the company's Atlanta headquarters, some key systems and network equipment did not switch over to backup systems. He said the airline's investigation into the cause of the outage was continuing but said there were no indications of hacking.

A spokesman for Georgia Power said that the company believes a failure of Delta equipment caused the airline's power outage. He said no other customers lost power. Delta declined to comment on the power company's report.

Flights that were already in the air when the outage occurred continued to their destinations, but flights on the ground remained there.

At 7 p.m. Eastern time, Delta said it had canceled more than 740 flights, and tracking service FlightStats Inc. counted more than 2,600 delayed flights.

Airlines depend on huge, overlapping and complicated systems to operate flights, schedule crews and run ticketing, boarding, airport kiosks, websites and mobile phone apps. Even brief outages can snarl traffic and cause long delays.

That has afflicted airlines in the U.S. and abroad.

Last month, Southwest Airlines canceled more than 2,000 flights over four days after an outage that it blamed on a faulty network router.

United Airlines suffered a series of massive IT meltdowns after combining its technology systems with those of merger partner Continental Airlines.

Lines for British Airways at some airports have grown longer as the carrier updates its systems.

On Monday in Richmond, Virginia, Delta gate agents were writing out boarding passes by hand. In Tokyo, a dot-matrix printer was resurrected to keep track of passengers on a flight to Shanghai.

Some passengers said they were shocked that computer glitches could cause such turmoil. Others took it in stride.

Ryan Shannon, another passenger on the Lexington-to-New York flight, said passengers boarded, were asked to exit, waited about 90 minutes and then got back on the plane.

Complexity makes airline computer systems vulnerable

DALLAS (AP)—Twice in less than a month, a major airline was paralyzed by a computer outage that prevented passengers from checking in and flights from taking off.

Last month, it took Southwest days to recover from a breakdown it blamed on a faulty router. On Monday, it was Delta's turn, as a power outage crippled the airline's information technology systems and forced it to cancel or delay hundreds of flights. Delta employees had to write out boarding passes by hand, and at one airport they resurrected a dot-matrix printer from the graveyard of 1980s technology.

Why do these kinds of meltdowns keep happening?

The answer is that airlines depend on huge, overlapping and complex IT systems to do just about everything, from operating flights to handling ticketing, boarding, websites and mobile-phone apps. And after years of rapid consolidation in the airline business, these computer systems may be a hodgepodge of parts of varying ages and from different merger partners.

These systems are also being worked harder, with new fees and options for passengers, and more transactions—Delta's traffic has nearly doubled in the past decade.

"These old legacy systems are operating much larger airlines that are being accessed in many, many more ways," said Daniel Baker, CEO of tracking service FlightAware.com. "It has really been taxing."

The result: IT failures that can inconvenience tens of thousands of passengers and create long-lasting ill will.

It is unclear exactly what went wrong at Delta. The airline said it suffered a power outage at an Atlanta installation around 2:30 a.m. EDT that caused many of its computer systems to fail. But the local electric company, Georgia Power, said that it was not to blame and that the equipment failure was on Delta's end.

IT experts questioned whether Delta's network was adequately prepared for the inevitable breakdown.

"One piece of equipment going out shouldn't cause this," said Bill Curtis, chief scientist at software-analysis firm Cast. "It's a bit shocking."

Curtis said IT systems should be designed so that when a part fails, its functions automatically switch over to a backup, preferably in a different location. "And if I had a multibillion-dollar business running on this, I would certainly want to have some kind of backup power," he added.

Hulu dropping free video as it prepares cable TV alternative

NEW YORK (AP)—Hulu is dropping the free TV episodes that it was initially known for as it works on an online television service to rival cable TV.

Free episodes—typically the most recent four or five episodes from a show's current season—will be gone from the site within a few weeks. Instead, Hulu is making free episodes available through Yahoo .

While Hulu started as a free site, supported by advertising, free video has become increasingly more difficult to find as Hulu tries to lure viewers into a subscription—$8 a month for a plan with ads, and $12 without. In recent months, visitors to Hulu.com have been presented with prominent links to subscribe, with links to free video buried in a menu after signing in.

And free episodes haven't been available on Hulu's mobile apps or streaming-TV devices, just on Hulu.com from a traditional computer. Now, they won't be on Hulu.com at all.

Devotees of Hulu's free on-demand videos will be able to find them by visiting the new Yahoo View site from a computer. The Yahoo site will not have free episodes of CW shows such as "Arrow" and "The Flash," as Hulu has been offering, because CW has a broader deal with Netflix instead. Yahoo says it will have the past five episodes of ABC, NBC and Fox shows available. The Fox shows will appear eight days after their TV airing, as is the practice at Hulu.com now. Yahoo will also have some older CBS shows.

The episodes on Yahoo are not currently available on a phone, although Yahoo is working on a mobile web version and an app. Yahoo says the mobile version will be free, but it may not have all the same video as the desktop computer site because of content licensing restrictions.

Hulu says relatively few people watch the free videos. It now has about 12 million subscribers who pay for original shows, the entire current seasons of some network shows and access to Hulu's library on mobile and streaming-TV devices like Roku.

Wal-Mart buying online retailer newcomer Jet.com

NEW YORK (AP)—Wal-Mart is buying fast-growing online retailer Jet.com for $3 billion in cash plus $300 million in stock, scooping up a newcomer that launched a year ago with the intention of challenging online leader Amazon.

The hefty price underscores how Wal-Mart is trying to compete more aggressively and effectively for younger and more affluent customers as it has seen its online business growth slow, even with big investments in distribution centers and expanding services.

As part of the deal, Jet.com co-founder and CEO Marc Lore will oversee both that site and walmart.com, and will report to Wal-Mart Stores Inc. Chief Executive Doug McMillon. Lore brings to the role a rich e-commerce resume as founder of Quidsi, the parent of Diapers.com, which was bought by Amazon for $500 million in 2010.

Analysts say the acquisition still won't enable Wal-Mart to catch up to Amazon in sales, but it will help narrow that gap and should widen the distance between Wal-Mart and other online retailers. The deal also reflects the difficulties for startups like Jet.com of making it on their own in a sphere Amazon dominates with its network of distribution hubs and the powerful asset of its Prime membership program.

The move follows a series of acquisitions by major traditional retailers of online startups, with Hudson's Bay, which owns Saks Fifth Avenue, purchasing flash-sales site Gilt Group and Bed, Bath & Beyond buying One Kings Lane. While not a startup, Wal-Mart itself announced in June that it announced it was forming a partnership with JD.com in China to bolster its presence in that market.

"This acquisition in tandem with its joint venture in China with JD.com, demonstrates that Wal-Mart is attacking online retail with significant zeal," said Moody's lead retail analyst Charlie O'Shea. "As we believe 'catching' Amazon online is an unrealistic goal for any brick-and-mortar retailer, Wal-Mart now has a definite leg up on its competitors in the very important race to be No. 2 online."

Nation

Police: Kansas boy suffered fatal neck injury on waterslide

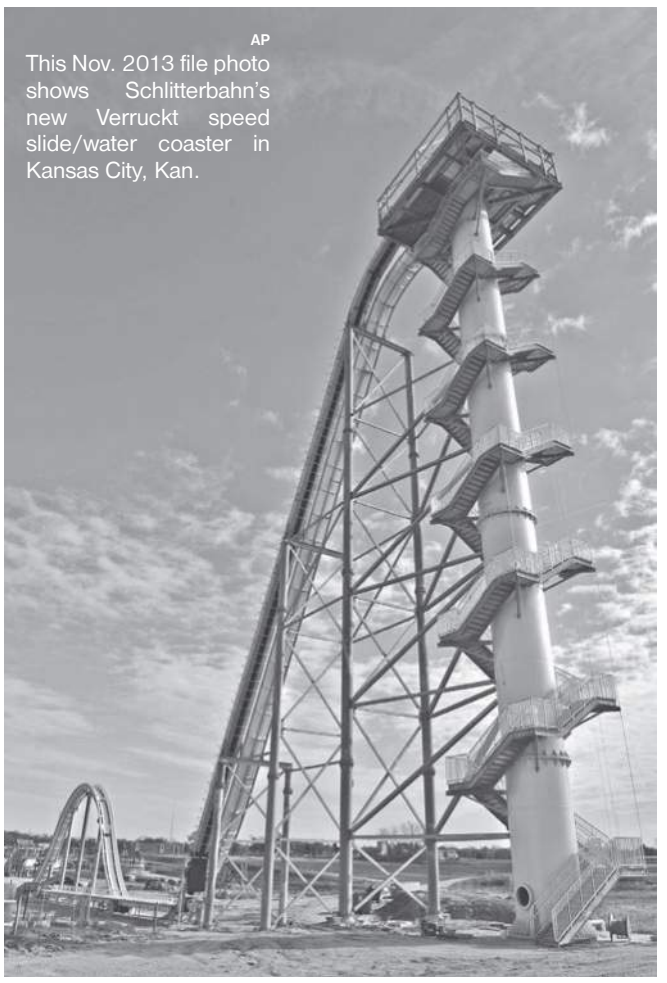
KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—A Kansas waterslide billed as the world's tallest remained off-limits Monday as authorities pressed to figure out how a state lawmaker's 10-year-old son died of a neck injury while riding it.

Details remained murky about what happened Sunday to Caleb Thomas Schwab on the 168-foot-tall "Verruckt"—German for "insane"—that since its debut two years ago has been the top draw at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in Kansas City, Kansas.

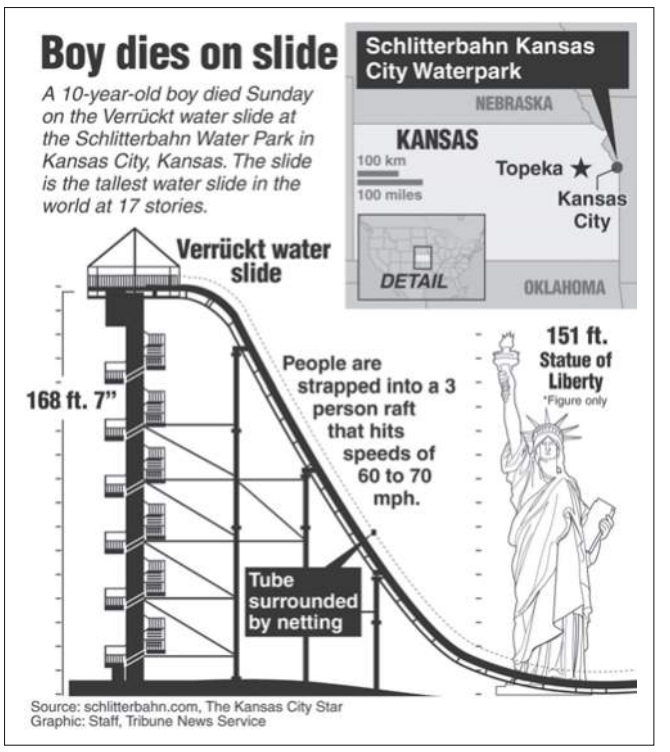
Kansas City, Kansas, police issued a statement late Monday afternoon saying that Caleb suffered a fatal neck injury around 2:30 p.m. while he was riding the slide with two women, neither of whom was related to him. They suffered minor facial injuries and were treated at an area hospital, police said.

Emergency responders arrived to find the boy dead in a pool at the end of the ride, according to the statement, which offered no further details.

In a statement Monday afternoon, Schlitterbahn said it was "deeply and intensely saddened for the Schwab family and all who were impacted by the tragic accident." The park was tentatively scheduled to reopen Wednesday, but "Verruckt is closed," according to the statement.



AP
This Nov. 2013 file photo shows Schlitterbahn's new Verruckt speed slide/water coaster in Kansas City, Kan.


Boy dies on slide
A 10-year-old boy died Sunday on the Verrückt water slide at the Schlitterbahn Water Park in Kansas City, Kansas. The slide is the tallest water slide in the world at 17 stories.
Schlitterbahn Kansas City Waterpark
NEBRASKA
KANSAS
100 km
100 miles
Topeka
Kansas City
DETAIL
OKLAHOMA
Verrückt water slide
168 ft. 7"
People are strapped into a 3 person raft that hits speeds of 60 to 70 mph.
151 ft. Statue of Liberty
*Figure only
Tube surrounded by netting
Source: schlitterbahn.com, The Kansas City Star
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

Officer Cameron Morgan, a police spokesman, said no police report about the incident was available. He said investigators were treating Caleb's death as a "civil matter" rather than a criminal one and referred additional questions to the park.

Schlitterbahn spokeswoman Winter Prosapio declined interview requests Monday but told reporters a day earlier that Caleb had been at the park with family members, adding that "we honestly don't know what's happened."

It wasn't immediately clear whether results of an autopsy Monday on Caleb would be publicly released or, if so, how soon, said Margaret Studyvin with the Wyandotte County coroner's office.

Leslie Castaneda, who was at Schlitterbahn on Sunday, told The Kansas City Star that she saw Caleb's crumpled shorts or bathing suit at the bottom of the ride, along with blood on the slide's white descending flume.

"I'm really having a tough time with it. I really am," said Castaneda, of Kansas City, Kansas. "I saw his (Caleb's) brother. He was screaming."

On the waterslide certified by Guinness World Records as the world's tallest, riders sit in multi-person rafts during "the ultimate in water slide thrills," subjecting "adventure seekers" to a "jaw dropping" 17-story drop, the park's website says. Passengers then are "blasted back up a second massive hill and then sent down yet another gut wrenching 50 foot drop," the website adds.

Each rider must be at least 54 inches tall, and the group's weight is limited to a total of 400 to 550 pounds. Authorities didn't release information about Caleb's height or the combined weight of his group of riders.

Trump tries to right his campaign, talking of tax cuts

DETROIT (AP)—Promising to "jumpstart America" to a new era of prosperity, Donald Trump announced a revamped economic plan Monday aimed at revitalizing a stagnant U.S. economy by cutting taxes for workers and businesses. He assailed Hillary Clinton as a candidate who would merely extend a Democratic period of old ideas and weakness.

Trying to move past recent stumbles, Trump proposed a simplified three-bracket income tax system that hewed closely to what House Republicans have recommended, the latest indication the GOP presidential nominee is working to put infighting with his party's leaders behind him. In a shift from the plan he proposed during the primary season, he increased the tax rate that the highest-earning Americans would pay.

With few exceptions, Trump provided more of a philosophical basis for an economic plan than a series of specifics.

He did spell out proposed tax brackets and called for greater child care deductions for families.

As he called for urgent change away from Democratic policies, he envisioned a nation refocused on manufacturing at home and wary of trade deals abroad—a country bearing little resemblance to the globally focused economy of recent years.

"Americanism, not globalism, will be our new credo," he said in his address at the Detroit Economic Club. "Our country will reach amazing new heights—maybe heights never attained before."

Delivering his speech from a teleprompter, Trump was interrupted repeatedly by protesters who stood on chairs and shouted at him before being pulled out of the room by security guards. He did not react harshly as he often has in the past, either quietly thanking the guards or simply powering ahead in his speech.

Only days ago, Trump triggered panic within the GOP when he declined to endorse House Speaker Paul Ryan's re-election or that of other leading Republicans. He sought to put the dust-up to bed Friday by finally backing those candidates while also trying to move past other controversies like his verbal attacks on a Muslim-American family whose son died fighting in Iraq.

ACROSS THE NATION

Man charged with fatal shooting after 'hoodlums' complaint

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—A white man who apparently called police to complain about "hoodlums" near his house was charged with murder after he shot and killed a black man outside, authorities said. The shooting happened early Sunday morning when 39-year-old Chad Cameron Copley fired a shotgun from inside his garage and hit the victim, according to a Raleigh Police Department news release. He was arrested hours later, and jail records show the suspect was being held on a murder charge. Kouren-Rodney Bernard Thomas, 20, suffered a gunshot wound and was pronounced dead at a hospital. Police spokeswoman Laura Hourigan said Thomas was black.

Nearly 10 square miles burn in latest California wildfire

CRESTLINE, Calif. (AP)—Smoke plumes roiling from flaming ridges of the San Bernardino Mountains threatened thousands of homes and blew all the way across the Mojave Desert to Las Vegas as California's latest big wildfire chewed through timber and brush Monday. Hundreds of firefighters, aided by 16 aircraft, battled flames that spread across nearly 10 square miles on the northern side of the rugged mountain range east of Los Angeles. Dozens of homes were ordered evacuated, and authorities recommended voluntary evacuations for more than 5,000.

Kentucky officials: Man shot, killed by Louisville police

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Louisville's police department has posted graphic body camera video from the fatal shooting of an African-American man by white police officers. The video captures officers speaking to a couple of people about a domestic dispute, approaching a residence and ordering someone to "drop it" several times. A woman at the scene had told police the man had a knife. Within four seconds, eight shots are fired. The camera then shows a man on the ground. Chief Steve Conrad said Monday the video raises questions. He said authorities would investigate the incident.

Convicted of '88 murder: 'I swear on my life I didn't do it'

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP)—A man convicted of committing murder when he was 15 said Monday that he could only imagine the pain the victim's family experienced, but he was unequivocal in stating his innocence: "I swear on my life I didn't do it."

Johnny Small's comments came at a hearing Monday that could lead to his release. A Superior Court judge will consider whether Small should have been convicted now that a childhood buddy, David Bollinger, recanted testimony accusing Small of killing Pam Dreher in 1988. An autopsy report indicated Dreher was shot in the head at point-blank range while she was lying on the floor of her tropical fish store.

Judge W. Douglas Parsons is hearing the matter without a jury. The judge could toss the conviction, order a new trial or uphold the conviction.

About 150 people falsely convicted of crimes—a record number—were exonerated in 2015, according to the National Registry of Exonerations. The registry is a project of the University of Michigan Law School and has documented more than 1,850 such cases in the U.S.

Bollinger, 47, and Small, now 43, faced each other Monday for the first time since they were teenagers on opposite sides of a murder trial. Bollinger has said he testified only because prosecutors promised charges he faced would be dropped in exchange and threatened the death penalty if he didn't cooperate. Bollinger said he repeated a story pinning the crime on Small that was fed to him by a homicide investigator on the Dreher case.

"I'm sorry. I was forced to do something I didn't want to do and I can't take it back," Bollinger told Small, a broad-shouldered man with freshly shaved head. Small's face scrunched and reddened as he choked back tears, then raised his handcuffed wrists so he could dab his eyes with a tissue.

Bollinger said he understands North Carolina could prosecute him for lying under oath during the 1989 murder trial. But he got Small to sign a waiver that he wouldn't sue Bollinger. Bollinger said he didn't want to lose the small business and home he's built for his wife and children over the years.

"What do you get out of this?" Small's attorney Chris Mumma asked.

"I get nothing," Bollinger said.

Asia

Who is Naruhito, Japan's likely next emperor?

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese Emperor Akihito's video message this week, though subtle, suggested that he wishes to abdicate, and the attention now goes to his elder son, the first in line to Japan's Chrysanthemum throne.

In his 10-minute recorded message Monday, Akihito primarily cited his old age and concerns that it may become difficult for him to fulfill his duties, but some palace watchers say a hidden reason for his desired abdication might be his successor.

Like his father, the son, Naruhito, is a soft-spoken and smiley man. A bit stocky at age 56, he's married to a Harvard-educated former diplomat, Masako, who has been ill for more than a decade and seldom appears in public. But she is better known abroad and his presence is often eclipsed whenever she comes out.

Having a father who has tried to break down Japan's ancient imperial traditions to bring his cloistered family closer to the nation, Naruhito was raised as a new breed of royals who grew up in a family seen as a model for the nation. His name in Chinese character means a person with heavenly virtues.

AP

In this Nov. 30, 2013, file photo, Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito, left, his wife Crown Princess Masako and his brother Prince Akishino, right, see off their parents Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko leaving for India at Haneda international airport in Tokyo.

His mother, Michiko, the first commoner to become empress, helped to bring in fresh changes to the palace in child-rearing and education. The couple eliminated a wet nurse for Naruhito, born Feb. 23, 1960, and his two younger siblings. When they went on official trips and left Naruhito behind, they handed his nannies a list of rules for the then-prince in what was known as a "Naru-chan Kempo," or "Constitution."

Naruhito attended Gakushuin, a private school for former aristocrats. After graduating from college, he studied at Oxford University, living in a dorm for two years for the first time while earning a master's degree in Thames River water transport systems.

An avid hiker, skier and viola player, Naruhito first met Harvard-educated diplomat Masako Owada at a party in 1986, but it took him eight years of waiting and two rejections before he won her heart in what is remembered as a modern-day royal romance.

Their marriage raised expectations of adding a modern face to imperial institutions, but Masako is still recovering from stress-induced mental conditions she developed after giving birth to their daughter, following criticism that she had failed to produce a boy.

The succession law allows only male emperors, so Naruhito's only child, Aiko, 14, cannot inherit. Instead, Naruhito's younger brother Akishino, 50, is second in line, and his son Hisahito, 9, is third. Discussions on changing the law to allow female succession ended with the boy's birth.

For more than a decade, Naruhito has mostly traveled alone while performing his traditional duties, unlike his father, who is almost always with his wife by his side. This raises a question as to whether Masako can do even part of the work Michiko has done as empress.

Palace watchers and experts say Akihito wants to abdicate possibly to help smooth the transition, rather than waiting until the last minute to burden his son with such a heavy immediate responsibility.

Naruhito would be the 126th emperor in a line believed to date to the fifth century.

The emperor is a purely symbolic figure today, with no political power. Akihito is known as a strong proponent of Japan's war-renouncing constitution, repeatedly showing support for the charter, which stipulates his symbol status.

Afghan official: Gunmen abduct American, Australian in Kabul

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Five gunmen wearing Afghan military uniforms have abducted an American and an Australian in Kabul, a security official said Monday. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the abduction.

The two foreigners were taken from their SUV while driving on Sunday night on a main road near the American University of Afghanistan, according to Sediq Sediqqi, spokesman for the Afghan Interior Ministry. They are believed to be employees of the university and were traveling between the university and their residence in the Afghan capital, he said.

Sediqqi added that initial reports say up to five armed men stopped the foreigners' vehicle. The two abducted are both men, he said. He did not reveal any more details except to say that an investigation is underway.

The U.S. Embassy in Kabul issued a brief statement confirming the kidnapping of an American citizen but gave no further details "due to privacy concerns."

"U.S. Embassy security officials are working closely with Afghan law enforcement and security colleagues and AUAF to assist in the investigation into the kidnapping," it said, referring to the American University of Afghanistan.

Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade also issued a statement confirming "the apparent kidnapping of an Australian in Kabul." No further details were released, also for privacy concerns.

"We continue to advise Australians not to travel to Afghanistan because of the extremely dangerous security situation, including the serious threat of kidnapping," it said.

Senior staff at the university in Kabul could not immediately be reached for comment. Students were sent an email from the university's Office of Student Affairs telling them the "campus will be closed tomorrow and until further notice."

Suicide attack targets lawyers at Pakistan hospital, 70 dead

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani militants struck at the heart of the country's legal profession on Monday, killing a prominent attorney and then bombing the hospital where dozens of other lawyers had gathered to mourn. The twin attacks killed at least 70 people, most of them lawyers, authorities said.

A breakaway faction of the Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the attacks in Quetta, the capital of restive Baluchistan province, which also wounded dozens of others.

In a statement, Ahsanullah Ahsan, spokesman for the Jamaat-ul-Ahrar militant group, said its fighters killed Bilal Kasi, the president of the Baluchistan Bar Association, then as dozens of lawyers gathered at the government-run Civil Hospital, a suicide bomber targeted the mourners.

Jamaat-ul-Ahrar has been behind several attacks in Pakistan in recent years, including a deadly March bombing on Easter Sunday in a park in the eastern city of Lahore that killed at least 70 people.

Witnesses described horrifying scenes of bodies scattered on the ground and the wounded screaming out for help.

A senior police official said Kasi was shot and killed by gunmen as he was on his way to his office. Kasi was among the most outspoken lawyers in Baluchistan province and was popular for campaigning for improvements in the legal community.

"It was a suicide attack," said the police official, Zahoor Ahmed Afridi. He said remains of the attacker had been found and authorities were trying to identify them.

Ninety-two people were wounded in the explosion, according to Civil Hospital director Abdul Rehman. Two journalists working for Pakistani news channels were among those killed in the attack, according to Shahzada Zulfiqar, the president of the Quetta Press Club.

Ali Zafar, the head of the country's main lawyers' association, condemned the blast as "an attack on justice." He said lawyers would observe three days of mourning and would not appear in court in solidarity with their colleagues and others killed in the attack.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokeswoman Elizabeth Trudeau condemned the targeting of "a hospital, as well as the judiciary and the media, two of the most important pillars of every democracy," and vowed to work with Pakistan to combat the threat of terrorism.

Survivors described scenes of panic as the blast ripped through the emergency room.

Waliur Rehman said he was taking his ailing father to the emergency ward when the explosion shook the building, knocking them both to the ground. "There were bodies everywhere," he said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Former PH president Fidel Ramos talks China ties

BEIJING (AP)—Former Philippine President Fidel Ramos says he wants to focus on points of common interest with China such as tourism and commercial fishing as part of efforts to smooth relations with Beijing roiled by the South China Sea dispute. Ramos spoke with reporters Tuesday in Hong Kong, where he said he plans to meet old friends with links to officials in Beijing. Current Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has asked the 88-year-old Ramos to act as his special envoy to pave the way for talks with Beijing after an international arbitration tribunal invalidated China's expansive territorial claims in a case put forward by the Philippines.

Indian forces arrest more than 1K protesters in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Government forces have arrested more than a thousand protesters in Indian-controlled Kashmir in an attempt to stem deadly anti-India demonstrations in the Himalayan region, a top policeman said Monday. Inspector-General Syed Javaid Mujtaba Gillani said the arrests were made over the past two weeks in a bid to end a month of protests in which more than 55 civilians and two policemen have been killed and thousands injured. Kashmir has been under a security lockdown and curfew since the killing of a popular rebel commander on July 8 sparked some of the largest protests against Indian rule in recent years.

Indonesian capital's airport opens $560M terminal

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—The Indonesian capital's airport opened a new terminal after years of operating at far above its passenger capacity. Domestic flights for national carrier Garuda began operating Tuesday from Soekarno-Hatta airport's steel and glass $560 million Terminal 3. Other airlines will gradually shift domestic and international flights to the terminal and the airport company plans to start refurbishing two old terminals later this year. The airport will be able to handle 62 million passengers a year once the renovated terminals are fully operational again in early 2018. The two old terminals handled about 54 million passengers last year.

World

2 years of anti-IS airstrikes have redrawn the Iraqi map

MAKHMOUR, Iraq (AP)—Two years ago, the U.S.-led coalition dropped the first airstrikes on the Islamic State group, ushering in a deeper phase of intervention that dramatically changed the fight against the militant group in Iraq. Since then more than 9,400 coalition airstrikes have allowed Iraqi forces to slowly claw back cities, towns, supply lines and infrastructure.

But the fight—which continues to be largely waged from the air—has also leveled entire neighborhoods, displaced millions and redrawn the Iraqi map.

The U.S.-led coalition estimates that IS has lost more than 40 percent of the territory the group once held in Iraq since the airstrikes began on Aug 8, 2014. But while coalition airstrikes paved the way for Kurdish and Iraqi ground forces to retake territory, in many cases the result is a ruined prize.

The first coalition strikes were spurred by an IS push from Mosul just weeks after the group's initial rampage across Iraq.

Makhmour base was just one of a number of frontline positions overrun in early August 2014 bringing IS fighters within just 30 kilometers (19 miles) of Erbil, the capital of Iraq's Kurdistan region.

"Daesh was moving into this town and we were withdrawing up into the mountains," said Ayoub Khaylani, a Peshmerga solider who was at Makhmour base with his unit just before the initial IS attack on Mahkmour.

AP

A family house lies in ruins in the Iraqi city of Ramadi on March 20, 2016, weeks after the city was retaken from the Islamic State group.

After three days of airstrikes, the IS advance on Erbil was slowed and Kurdish forces retook the base. Two years later, the fight against IS has moved west across the Tigris river into Nineveh province and Makhmour has transitioned from an active frontline to a sleepy support position.

"If it weren't for the strikes and the heavy artillery (given to the Iraqi army by the coalition), we would still be up in the mountains," Khaylani said, sitting in a small air conditioned room hunched over his mobile phone on an overstuffed sofa.

"I will not allow the United States to be dragged into fighting another war in Iraq," said U.S. President Barack Obama when he announced the authorization for airstrikes in Iraq in 2014. "American combat troops will not be returning to fight in Iraq."

Friday, the Pentagon announced about 400 U.S. soldiers will deploy south of Mosul to Qayarah airbase to aid in the operation to retake Iraq's second largest city. They are among the 560 additional troops that President Obama approved for the Iraq mission last month. The Pentagon says there are about 3,800 U.S. forces currently in Iraq, not including hundreds who are on temporary duty and not included in the official count.

As the push to retake Mosul ramps up, the scars from two years of costly victories remain vivid.

Sinjar, the small mostly Yazidi town north of Mosul, was retaken by Kurdish forces nine months ago, but it still lies in ruins. While Sinjar is technically "liberated" the vast majority of its residents still live in tented camps for the displaced scattered throughout Iraq's north.

The Pentagon claims 55 civilians have been killed in Iraq and Syria since the air war against IS was launched. However, human rights and humanitarian aid groups insist that number is vastly underestimated. Airwars, a project tracking airstrikes targeting IS, estimates that at least 1,568 civilians have likely died in coalition actions.

For Iraq's Kurdish peshmerga, pushing back IS has also meant strengthening their hold on disputed territory. Closely supported with coalition training, intelligence sharing and airstrikes, Kurdish forces have taken hundreds of towns and villages from IS that were previously claimed by both the Kurdish regional government and Iraq's central government in Baghdad.

WORLD BRIEFS

Tropical Storm Javier churns near tip of Mexico's Baja

CABO SAN LUCAS, Mexico (AP)—Mexican authorities evacuated people from low-lying areas around the resort city Cabo San Lucas as a slightly weakened Tropical Storm Javier churned near the tip of Mexico's Baja California Peninsula. Slowing its forward movement to 5 mph (7 kph), Javier promised an extended battering with wind and rain through Wednesday morning as it headed northward brushing the Pacific shore of southern Baja. The storm was centered about 30 miles (50 kilometers) south-southeast of Cabo San Lucas late Monday, with maximum sustained winds of 60 mph (95 kph), down from a peak of 65 mph (100 kph), the U.S. National Hurricane Center said. It said a weakening trend should begin Tuesday afternoon.

1 jihadi dead in attacks, clashes with army in central Mali

DAKAR, Senegal (AP)—An Islamic extremist group says at least one of its fighters has been killed in clashes with Mali's army in the West African country. The SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors jihadists' activity online, said Monday that the extremist group Ansar Dine had reported on its Twitter account that its fighters had engaged in two battles with the Malian army since Sunday. Ansar Dine says its Macina Liberation Front battalion, with a stronghold in the Mopti region, ambushed Malian soldiers between Teninkou and Shari villages Sunday. It said one fighter was killed after four hours of fighting with a convoy of soldiers on Monday. It said several Malian soldiers had been killed and wounded.

Pork pie problem: UK food traditions to lose EU support

BUILTH WELLS, Wales (AP)—Welsh farmers like Rees Roberts, who has 1,000 acres with sheep, cattle and crops, can expect to earn a premium on their meats thanks to a certificate of regional authenticity.

But that marker of distinction—the same kind that ensures Champagne can only come from the French region of the same name—is granted by the European Union and is now at risk after Britain voted to leave the 28-country bloc.

The certificates, of which there are 73 across Britain for goods like Stilton cheese and Melton Mowbray pork pies, not only help farmers earn more but also shape rural communities' identities. Add to that the loss of $3.97 billion in EU subsidies for U.K. farmers, potential new tariffs and fears that agriculture will not be prioritized in trade talks with the EU, and the decision to leave the 28-nation bloc promises to be painful.

"The voters weren't thinking it through," said Roberts, 65, as he discussed the uncertainty with fellow farmers at a fair in the village of Builth Wells.

For Welsh farmers, EU membership cushioned against tough times. Sheep flocks have fallen in size by 20 percent since a 1999 peak, while farmers' real annual average incomes have tumbled nearly a third since 2003 to 22,500 pounds, or $29,250, according to government figures. The potential loss of preferential trade with Europe has left Wales rushing to export its lamb and beef to the United States, with the government submitting a 1,000-page proposal to the U.S. Agriculture Department last month ahead of upcoming trade talks in April.

The move was driven in part by concerns that negotiations over the next two years on Britain departing the EU will prioritize London banking jobs, while downplaying the needs of those in the hinterlands without the posh salaries.

"There are many concerns of how influential agriculture will be in these negotiations, both in terms of trade and direct financial support when compared to the powerful sectors such as financial services," said Dai Davies, chairman of the Welsh meat promoter Hybu Cig Cymru.

Davies was at the Royal Welsh Show in Builth Wells—among the largest agricultural fairs in Europe—to listen to farmers' concerns and answer their questions. A sense of seriousness and urgency dominated the mood, despite the sheep shearing contests, food stalls and a folk rendition of Beyonce's "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)."

MSF says a hospital it supports in Syria bombed, 13 killed

BEIRUT (AP)—A hospital supported by Doctors Without Borders and specializing in pediatrics in a rebel-held northern Syria province has been destroyed in a series of airstrikes over the weekend that killed 13 people, including four staff and five children, the international medical charity said Monday.

The group, known by its French acronym MSF, said that two of four airstrikes directly hit the hospital in Millis, in the northern province of Idlib and put it out of service. Six other hospital staff members were wounded in the broad daylight airstrikes Saturday. The bombing of the hospital that serves as a reference center specializing in pediatrics also destroyed the operating theatre, intensive care unit, pediatric department, ambulances and a generator, the charity said. It was not clear which government had conducted the airstrikes and the MSF statement did not specify.

Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman, said the U.S. has not conducted any airstrikes near Idlib.

MSF said the hospital attack deprives 70,000 people in Millis and surrounding areas of essential medical care. The hospital, supported by MSF since 2014, used to receive 250 patients per day, many of them women and children

"The direct bombing of another hospital in Syria is an outrage," says Silvia Dallatomasina, medical manager of MSF operations in northwestern Syria. She called for an immediate end to attacks on hospitals, pointing that four out of five UN Security Council members are participants in the war in Syria.

Hospitals, mostly in rebel-held areas, are regularly attacked. In July alone, the U.N. said it has recorded 44 attacks on health facilities in Syria. Syria's government and Russia, a major ally that has been carrying out airstrikes in Syria since September, deny targeting health facilities.

In recent days, a number of attacks were reported on medical facilities amid increased violence, and ultimately increased pressure on the health facilities, in northern Syria.

Focus

In this June 28, 2016 file picture, Pakistani social media star Qandeel Baloch speaks during a press conference in Lahore, Pakistan. AP

A star rises from poverty, is killed defying Pakistan norms

KATHY GANNON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHAH SADDERUDDIN, Pakistan (AP)—Like most of the men in this village of mudbrick homes and wooden carts pulled by water buffalo, Muhammed Azeem cannot read or write. Like the other fathers, he raised a family of six boys and three girls on whatever he could coax out of a soil baked by the searing Punjab sun.

But in a culture where a family's worth is tallied in the number of males it can produce and girls are second-class citizens at best, Azeem was different.

He valued his daughters as much as his sons.

He raised them to be independent young women. When one of the girls married, she refused to take her husband's name. Another changed hers to Qandeel Baloch and became famous, shocking this conservative Islamic country with risqué dance videos that showed her in skin-tight clothing grinding against men.

Azeem didn't care. He loved Qandeel—whose new name meant "torch" in their native language.

"I supported everything she did," Azeem says, tears glistening on his weather-beaten face. "I liked everything she did."

Her father's love helped make Qandeel a role model to a generation of young Pakistani women. But it also may have planted the seeds of her destruction.

Her younger brother Muhammed Wazeem seethed. It was bad enough that he couldn't compete with his sister for their father's affections, and lived in a home that she paid for. But even worse was the relentless sniping from villagers. Storekeepers would show him her Facebook posts on their phones, criticizing his family for allowing her to make the videos.

He decided he had to save the family's "honor." Last month, he drugged Qandeel and then, as their parents slept downstairs, strangled her.

In most so-called honor killings, families close ranks around the killer. But Qandeel's father wants his son punished.

"My son was wrong," Azeem said. "I will not forgive him."

A social media star, who was abused by a husband who burned and beat her, Qandeel paid with her life for refusing to live a life dictated by repressive tribal traditions and religious edicts defined by clerics who espouse a narrow and repressive brand of Islam. Qandeel Baloch, provocative media star, who was killed by her brother was born Fauzia Azeem, to a dirt poor farming family, raised in a mud house baked by the searing sun of Pakistan's Punjab province.

This is the story of a girl from one of the poorest, most backward areas of Pakistan who emerged to transfix a nation—and then was killed for her role in its clash between tradition and modernity, between Islamic fundamentalism and secularism.

It is a paradox of today's Pakistan, a deeply religious country where 4G service and social media have arrived in even the most isolated communities, that one family could produce a wildly untraditional daughter and a son so traditional he felt compelled to kill his sister for her 21st-century ways.

Qandeel's home village, Shah Saddaruddin, is a seven-hour drive from the capital, Islamabad, a journey through sugar-cane and mango fields, often on roads that are no more than dirt tracks. Murky streams and canals flow through a vast countryside owned by feudal landlords who keep their workers deep in debt.

Most girls are hidden away once they reach puberty, and many are married shortly afterward to a boy chosen by their parents. Occasionally, women are exchanged to pay off a debt, or to settle a dispute.

"Women here are strictly controlled," Qandeel's sister Munawar Azeem says. "It's our tradition, but Qandeel was stubborn, she always wanted more, had different ideas."

She says she'll never forgive her brother for killing her sister, who was only 26 when she died.

Her father loved the girls "too much," Munawar says, as if sensing that his esteem was too great for their deeply traditional society.

The girls lived in a country that sees 1,000 honor killings a year, most of them targeting women. A woman can even be punished for something a male relative may have done. In a nearby village in 2002, a young woman named Muktar Mai was gang-raped by four men and then paraded naked through the village.

The ordeal, it turned out, was retribution for alleged sexual advances her 12-year-old brother had made toward a girl.

Mukhtar Mai stunned villagers and inspired Pakistan when she stood up to her rapists and public humiliation. She went to court, demanded their punishment and started a charity to educate young girls. Her courage became legendary.

In her own way, Qandeel was just as revolutionary, thumbing her nose at tradition with her provocative videos that amassed millions of views—and thousands upon thousands of thumbs-down.

Her rebellion began long ago, when she was still a little girl named Fauzia.

One day she saw her older brother practicing karate and judo. Every day after that, the 8-year-old could be found outside working on her martial arts moves.

Her mother, Anwar Bibi, smiles at the thought of her daughter.

"I don't know why she was the way she was, but she never cared what anyone thought," Bibi says. "She was always brave."

Fauzia thought maybe she'd join the army. Or no, she'd be a pilot.

"She would look at the sky and she would say: 'Papa, I want to fly. I want to be like a bird,'" her father says.

Eventually Fauzia settled on becoming a star. She watched Indian soap operas on television and read fashion magazines. She told her mother she'd be famous one day.

After becoming Qandeel, her first public performance was in 2012 on "Pakistan Idol," a local offshoot of "American Idol." It was a disaster.

Judges cringe as she sings, finally pleading with her to stop. Her appearance ends with her being escorted off the stage and sobbing backstage. The video went viral.

Her notoriety grew when she posted a seductive video earlier this year offering to strip-tease for the Pakistani cricket team captain if Pakistan won its match against rival India. (The team lost.)

Her tweets were sometimes titillating—"Am I Looking Hot? 3 Yess I Know M Looking Damn Hot 3 3." But self-empowerment was a recurring theme: "I am Special..I will Remain Special.I will Dare to do different things which people will never Dare to do."

Torrents of condemnation inundated Qandeel's Facebook page. One user wanted her arrested for "spreading vulgarity." One with a rudimentary grasp of English wrote, simply, "We hete you."

But she inspired many others. One wrote: "You are strong like men," and another said: "Fabulous style and confidence. U r such a superstar my QB."

Qandeel's transformation from fame-hungry celebrity to fledgling feminist may have its roots in her short marriage, one she said was marked by abuse.

It seemed like a love match at first. Unlike many here, it wasn't an arranged marriage. She fell for a family friend.

Ashiq Hussain, her ex-husband, lives in a village called Mozza Tarryaie, where a single buffalo is tethered outside the mud house he shares with his four brothers, their wives and 15 children as well as his elderly parents.

As Hussain tells it, Fauzia would pursue him, writing him letters.

"Even sometimes she would use her own blood to write," he says.

"There was no Qandeel then. She was Fauzia."

During their marriage of less than two years, he recalls, she was obsessed with moving to the city, buying a house and wearing pretty clothes.

"Maybe in her heart she was already thinking of being a star," recalls Hussain. "But I told her before marriage: 'I am a poor man, a very simple man. You knew I could not give you more.'"

After a year they had a son, Mishal. He resembles his mother, sharing her round brown eyes and full lips. But he doesn't remember his mother, and he is quiet, almost sullen.

Qandeel fled the marriage, accusing her husband of beating and torturing her—a charge he denies. She was widely condemned for abandoning her son, but she said their families forced her to leave Mishal behind.

During her sensation-filled life, many critics dismissed Qandeel's claims of abuse. But when Qandeel's body was bathed before being buried, in keeping with tradition, her mother saw the scars, says her neighbor Saba Munir.

Munir gestures to her own hip to show where Qandeel had been badly burned. The scar, she says, was very large.

If any moment captures Pakistan's earthshaking clash of cultures, it is the selfie Qandeel took with her ever-present phone two months ago, in the middle of the holy month of Ramadan.

In it, she is almost sitting on the lap of Muslim cleric Maulvi Abdul Qavi in a Karachi hotel room. She wears his pointed cap perched above her arched brows and flaring eyeliner. Her mouth forms an exaggerated "O" of surprise and sexuality.

As outrage exploded over the photos, the two engaged in a furious round of he-said-she-said. The cleric said Qandeel had asked for the meeting, and he agreed because they both came from south Punjab. Qandeel said it was Qavi who had sought the meeting—and had insisted it be in a hotel room.

Qandeel's parents say she began to get threats on her life after the notorious selfie.

"Before that everything was stable, but after that everything changed," her mother says.

On a recent day, Qavi sits cross-legged on the floor of his office in Multan, the Punjab city where Qandeel was killed in the home she had rented for her parents and her 22-year-old brother. Members of his entourage surround the chubby mufti; one of them fans the cleric, trying to protect him from the oppressive 113-degree heat.

Leaning against a cushion, Qavi wears the indulgent smile of a parent with a misbehaving child as he's asked about Qandeel's accusations that he drank juice in daylight hours during Ramadan, when the devout are meant to fast from dawn to dusk. But when asked about police promising to investigate his possible involvement in inciting violence against Qandeel, he struggles for composure.

"The main thing is, it is condemnable," he says, referring to her killing.

Not everyone, however, has condemned the killing.

"A girl who decides to publish her naked pics for sake of publicity...what her brother is sppose to do???" one tweet said.

In addition to Wazeem, police have arrested a cousin in

See A STAR on next page

Good Housekeeping

Living Smart: What temperature should you set the thermostat to while on vacation?

By COURTNEY ST. ONGE
ANGIE'S LIST

Before you leave on your last, late-summer vacation, don't forget to give your HVAC system a break too.

Turning your thermostat up a few degrees while you're gone in the summer will surely save you some dollars from not running your air conditioner, but is there an ideal temperature for your home while you're away?

Yes, according to Wesley Brookover, service manager at McClintock Heating, Cooling and Electrical in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Program your thermostat to a few degrees warmer or cooler than normal when on vacation. TNS

SUMMER VACATION TIPS

His suggestion for your air conditioning needs: Add four degrees to the temperature you normally set for your house while you're on summer vacation. So, if you normally set it to 73, bump it up to 77 degrees.

But don't get greedy. If you set the thermostat too high, you might find your own temperature rising when you see your next electricity bill.

"Four degrees is the sweet spot," Brookover says. "More than that and you may spend what you save trying to cool it back down."

Brookover cautions there's an even bigger threat from leaving your house too warm. "You could damage wall compounds in Sheetrock if it's too hot and humid in the house," he says.

Excessive humidity also could lead to mildew in the house, and Brookover says he's even seen refrigerators sweating when the house is too hot and humid. So you do want to keep your A/C running at a reasonable pace.

WINTER VACATION TIPS

A similar rule applies in reverse for cold weather, with one exception.

Take four degrees off your normal home temperature when you leave for a few days on winter vacation, Brookover says.

Avoid the temptation to shut the whole system down while you're gone: Any more than four degrees, and your heat pump or heater has to work too hard to get things toasty again when you return from out of town.

The exception: If you have a gas furnace, which requires less work to heat homes, you can set the temperature six to eight degrees lower.

REPLACE YOUR THERMOSTAT

Want to save even more money? Talk to an HVAC company about upgrading your thermostat.

Newer thermostat systems give you the power to change your home's temperature remotely with smartphone apps, allowing you to adjust based on changing temps outside. At the least, you can enter a new setting as you head back from vacation, so you don't walk into an uncomfortably muggy or chilly home. Instead, your A/C or heater will be busily plugging away to get to the new temperature while you travel back.

"That's the best thing," Brookover says. "Many people are going to systems like that."

Even without an app, many programmable thermostats have hold settings or day and time selections that will allow you to begin the cooling process again a few hours before you return.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING TWO

Jerk Pork Chops with Pineapple

We love this shortcut Jamaican jerk—made with thick, juicy pork and succulent grilled fruit. Try our jerk rub on chicken pieces or salmon steaks too.

- 1 baby pineapple or 1/2 regular pineapple
- 1 lime
- 2 tablespoons jerk seasoning (see note)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 pork loin chops, 3/4 inch thick (about 8 ounces each with bone)
- Lime wedges and cilantro sprigs for garnish

1. With sharp knife, cut pineapple lengthwise through crown to stem end in 4 wedges, leaving on leafy crown.

2. From lime, grate 1/2 teaspoon peel and squeeze 1 tablespoon juice. In small bowl, mix lime peel and juice with jerk seasoning and oil. Rub both sides of pork chops with jerk mixture.

3. Place pork chops on hot grill rack over medium heat; cook 10 to 12 minutes, turning chops over once, until browned on the outside and still slightly pink on the inside. While chops are cooking, add pineapple wedges, cut sides down, to same grill; cook 5 minutes, turning wedges over once. Transfer chops and pineapple to same platter. Garnish with lime wedges and cilantro sprigs. Makes 4 servings.

***Each serving:** About 400 calories, 22g total fat (7g saturated), 41g protein, 8g carbohydrate, 1g fiber, 11 mg cholesterol, 535mg sodium.

Note: Seasoning mixes vary among manufacturers, especially with regard to salt content. Add salt to taste if necessary.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

Accommodating outdoor electrical needs this summer

By PAUL F. P. POGUE
ANGIE'S LIST

A weatherproof cover is a crucial element of an outdoor power outlet. TNS

As summer approaches, homeowners might be giving thought to outdoor kitchens or barbecue islands and other outdoor entertaining options. But these amenities sometimes require power, and you don't want to be running an extension cord to the backyard. What can you do to accommodate outdoor electrical needs for the summer?

Electricians say adding a new outdoor outlet is a relatively simple task. In most cases, they can piggyback off an existing indoor outlet and simply run another line off the same circuit.

Outdoor power outlets should always contain ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCI), which automatically cut off power in the event of an energy spike—an important safety feature for any outlet that can be exposed to water. In addition, outdoor electrical outlets should be equipped with a rubber-sealed cover that can be closed when the outlet is not in use.

"You want it to be both GFCI-protected and weather resistant," says Brent Yauchler, owner of The Electrican in Mount Horeb, Wisc. He says if you have existing outdoor outlets that are more than 10 years old, you should take a look and make sure the rubber gasket still gives a good seal when closed.

Wesley Sedain, co-owner of Alley Electric in Fremont, Calif., says he charges between $350 and $400 to install an outdoor outlet, with the price rising somewhat if the existing outlet is an older one without a proper grounding wire, or if no outlet exists where the homeowner wants to install an outdoor one. "In those cases, we need to run a new dedicated circuit," he says.

Yauchler charges about $150 to install an outdoor outlet, but the price goes down if you're installing more than one outlet, since the price includes a minimum labor fee.

Sedain says he installs summer outdoor outlets for barbecue islands and outdoor entertainment centers, but he most frequently installs outdoor outlets in the fall, in preparation for holiday lighting setups.

OTHER SUMMER ELECTRICAL ISSUES

In addition to outdoor needs, other specific electrical problems develop during summer. Sedain says he often talks to homeowners who run into trouble with portable air conditioners. Portable A/C units tend to draw quite a bit of power, so if you run one in the living room on the same circuit as another electronic device, it runs a high risk of tripping the circuit breaker—particularly since living rooms and bedrooms aren't equipped with circuits capable of handling as much power as kitchens and utility rooms.

Sedain says the solution for a portable air conditioner is to keep it on one outlet without any other device, and if that doesn't work, you'll need to run a dedicated circuit that can handle more power, which will cost about $300. "However, that dedicated circuit will be able to accommodate other high-powered devices, such as running a portable heater in winter," he says.

Yauchler also advises homeowners to consider whole-house surge protection in summertime, if they don't already have it. This protects against lightning and major electrical spikes, and gives much more protection than surge-protection power strips. He charges about $250 to install one.

A STAR

From page 18

connection with Qandeel's death, and are looking into the possibility that other brothers may have encouraged him in the killing.

Multan police officer Muhammed Azam Akram thinks the growth of social media is threatening Pakistani society, and the government must do something to regulate posts like Qandeel's.

"She was hungry for fame," he says. "She became popular, but not in a positive means."

Qandeel belonged to the first generation of Pakistanis who are truly connected, tapping little hearts on their smartphones to "like" Instagram and Twitter posts. They want to be part of the modern world, with the freedom to challenge the older generation's restrictive interpretations of how they should live according to Islam.

Social media gave Qandeel a platform to push the envelope on tradition, but it also left her vulnerable to radicals who troll the internet, inciting hate.

"Saw some photos/clips of Qandeel Baloch... what a slut! Disgusting," one tweet said, going on to use a deeply misogynistic word.

The day before she was killed, Qandeel tweeted: "As a women we must stand up for ourselves. As a women we must stand up for each other... As women we must stand."

At Qandeel's grave in Shah Sadderuddin, her sister Munawar points to half a dozen young men who have gathered there to praise the dead woman.

"Look at them," she says. "When she was alive, everyone said horrible things about her, and now they come and pray at her grave. See what hypocrites we are."

The brother who killed Qandeel was more hotheaded than devout, police officials and family members say. Wasi, as everyone called him, even had a girlfriend, one police official said. But he couldn't bear the public ridicule, and finally said he either was going to kill his sister or himself.

He chose his sister.

Qandeel's father is devastated by her death.

His daughter, he says, "was more of a son" than any of his six sons, providing for the family.

"We were never short of anything. We had everything," he said.

Now he holds his son's fate in his hands. If he refuses to forgive the boy, Wazeem may be given the death penalty, and a father who weeps for his daughter also will lose a son.

"I am ruined today," he says.

"I miss her face. I miss how she looked. I miss the way she would speak. I miss everything of her. You were my daughter. God gave you fame. May God bless you."

Life & Style

Tim Curry on new 'Rocky Horror,' Cookie on 'Empire' fashion

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—A roundup of news from the Television Critics Association summer meeting, at which TV networks and streaming services are presenting details on upcoming programs.

CURRY ON FRANK-N-FURTER

Tim Curry's participation in Fox TV's "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" helped erode fan resistance to a remake of the 1975 cult film, producer Lou Adler said.

"As you can imagine, when we announced we were doing this there was a tremendous backlash from fans who have been with us for 40 years," said Adler, who was behind both the big-screen original and the Fox version airing in October.

"That all loosened up," he said, when Curry signed on to the role of Narrator. The actor played scientist and transvestite Dr. Frank-N-Furter in the film.

"You really made the difference," director-choreographer Kenny Ortega told Curry during a Q&A about the project.

"It was a blessing. I loved being there," Curry replied. Asked how he felt about Frank-N-Furter being his most enduring role, his reply was droll.

"That's not much I can do about it, really," he said.

The lovefest resumed when producers discussed the performance of Laverne Cox ("Orange is the New Black") as the new Frank-N-Furter. Cox didn't participate in the panel.

"She had so much to give to it," Ortega, also a producer on the project, said of Cox, citing her depth of talent, life experience and "incredible respect" for the movie. He recalled the first day of rehearsal for the cast album, when Cox performed "Sweet, Sweet Transvestite" with Curry, who uses a wheelchair, sitting alongside the pianist.

When she finished, Ortega said, Curry was the first to respond, shouting "bravo!"

HENSON WORKS IT

Viewers may pay a lot of attention to what Taraji P. Henson wears as Cookie on Fox's "Empire," but guess who doesn't? Taraji P. Henson.

"It's not my job," Henson told TV critics Monday at a bi-annual press event.

She added that some actresses get caught up with what their character would and would not wear, but she's personally too busy paying attention to her lines.

That's not to say that some outfits have caused her to have colorful commentary.

"I remember one outfit I looked like I had aluminum foil on," another time "a sushi roll," and then there was a time she wore what resembled "fur noodles." But, in the end, she's fine with what's picked for her.

"I'm not the costumer. I tell them bring it to me, I'll put it on and make it work."

Executive Producer Ilene Chaiken teased Taye Digg's arc in season three, saying he enters the show interacting with Jussie Smollett's Jamal, but he quickly becomes "all about Cookie."

Also teased, a possible spinoff on Cookie. First, she'd logically have to separate herself from her on again, off again love, Luscious. That, Chaiken says, she will try to do in season three.

"Empire" returns for its third season on Sept. 21 at 9 p.m. EDT on Fox.

THE TALKS ARE OUT THERE

Significant talks are underway with "The X-Files" stars Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny and creator Chris Carter for more of the drama series, Fox's entertainment president said.

"Schedules are hard, but we are working hard to get this done and we would love to get another season out soon," programming chief David Madden said.

Fox touted the 16 million viewers who watched each of the six episodes that brought the 1993-2002 sci-fi series back to this year.

But what about the mixed reviews it got, reporters asked Madden and Dana Walden, chairman and CEO of Fox Television Group. Because the series had been off the air for so long, it faced the challenge of filling in its larger "mythology" and fast-forwarding the characters' lives, Walden said.

"Going forward, there won't be the same obligation to reset the series," she said.

Walden disputed the characterization of how the show was received, saying it earned glowing reviews as well as negative ones. The chatter on Fox's social media platforms was overwhelmingly positive, she added.

EXORCISING STEREOTYPES

Fox's new series, "The Exorcist" isn't just an opportunity to tell a demonic horror story. It's also providing an opportunity for diversity in television.

One of the series' stars is Mexican actor Alfonso Herrera, who plays a priest on the show.

"I'm very, very happy to portray a Mexican ... who is not just a guy with a sombrero and a mustache," the actor told journalists Monday at a bi-annual press event for TV Critics.

The cast includes Alan Ruck, Ben Daniels and Geena Davis.

Davis, who spends much of her time advocating for a larger female presence in film and television, particularly in media aimed at children, joked that she hasn't had to "bust" the crew on anything.

"Half of our writers' room is women, which is very exciting and unfortunately unusual. There are more female important characters than male in the story, also. We have two female directors of our 10, which I'm excited about."

"The Exorcist" premieres Sept. 23 on Fox.

THE WIND-UP, THE 'PITCH'

An upcoming Fox drama about the first woman to play Major League Baseball is not merely about baseball, said its co-creator and co-executive producer, Dan Fogelman.

AP

Tim Curry participates in the panel for "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" during the Fox Television Critics Association summer press tour on Monday, Aug. 8, 2016, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

"It's a show that takes place in the world of baseball," he said. "It's about this young woman coming of age with the lens of the world watching her."

Fogelman doesn't believe that "Pitch" is based in folklore either, but more a precursor to when women do play pro sports with men.

"I think this is going to happen in modern lifetime. The human anatomy makes it a challenge," he said, "It's addressed in the pilot. I think the right young woman is going to come along."

Fox also draws upon the network's partnership with the real MLB when it is time to play ball, to keep the games looking as realistic as possible.

Series lead Kylie Bunbury spent two-and-a-half months learning to pitch prior to filming and her efforts have paid off.

"The girl can pitch now," said another co-executive producer, Paris Barclay. "Now she's pitching, and she's got a little heat and she's got great form."

JAKE, MEET JESS

Worlds are colliding on Fox as Andy Samberg's "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" character Jake is about to meet Jess from "New Girl," played by Zooey Deschanel.

The network said characters from "New Girl" and "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" will cross over in back-to-back episodes airing Oct. 11.

The only plot detail revealed is that the "New Girl" gang will head to New York, where they meet the crew from the "Nine-Nine" precinct.

This isn't the first series combo event for the network. Last season "Bones" and "Sleepy Hollow" also crossed over, to ratings success.

"New Girl" premieres its sixth season, and "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" debuts season four Sept. 20 on Fox.

'SIMPSONS' TIMES TWO

"The Simpsons" is doubling down with an hourlong episode in January.

It will be the first time the half-hour animated series has expanded to a full hour, Fox said. Al Jean, executive producer of the series that revels in daring humor, included a political shot in announcing the episode.

"I just pray it won't be the last thing people see before a Trump inauguration," Jean said in a statement.

Taraji P. Henson, who plays Cookie on Fox's "Empire," and Keegan-Michael Key will guest star. Henson voices Praline, the former wife of a music mogul who has conned Mr. Burns into bankruptcy. Key voices a rapper, Jazzy James, who joins with Praline, Homer and Bart to help Mr. Burns seek revenge.

The airdate for the episode, titled "The Great Phatsby," a play on the classic "The Great Gatsby," was not announced. "The Simpsons" begins its 28th season on Sept. 25, and will reach its 600-episode milestone Oct. 16.

SCHUMER SPEAKS

An upcoming Sunday night on Fox in September will be Amy Schumer night.

The comedian will voice characters on "The Simpsons," ''Bob's Burgers" and "Family Guy" on the episodes airing Sept. 25, Fox said.

In each show, she plays someone different.

Fox said Schumer has already recorded her appearances and completed them in one session.

Network chairman Dana Walden said the idea was to have the same actor bring a "connective tissue throughout the night."

A DATE FOR CAREY

After two seasons of teasing viewers about whether it would happen, Mariah Carey has set a date to guest star on Fox's "Empire."

Carey will appear on the Oct. 5 episode, the network said.

She will play a superstar singer named Kitty, who collaborates with Jussie Smollett's character, Jamal Lyon, on a new song. Lyon has a creative block until Kitty helps him deal with some personal issues to make the song work.

Mariah Carey to guest as superstar singer on Fox's 'Empire'

In this May 14, 2016 file photo, Mariah Carey attends the 27th Annual GLAAD Media Awards, in New York. AP

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—After two seasons of teasing viewers about whether it would happen, Mariah Carey has set a date to guest star on Fox's "Empire."

Carey will appear on the Oct. 5 episode, the network confirmed Monday at a TV critics bi-annual press tour.

She will play a superstar singer named Kitty, who collaborates with Jussie Smollett's character, Jamal Lyon, on a new song. Lyon has a creative block until Kitty helps him deal with some personal issues to make the song work.

"Mariah loves the show" and has long made a point of sharing her passion for it when they have met at events, said Dana Walden, chairman and CEO of the Fox Television Group.

Carey filmed the episodes last week, Walden said.

Other guest stars confirmed for season three, which debuts Sept. 21, include actor Taye Diggs and rapper French Montana.

'The Simpsons' to air first one-hour episode; poor Mr. Burns

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—"The Simpsons" is doubling down with an hour-long episode in January.

It will be the first time the half-hour animated series has expanded to a full hour, Fox said Monday.

Al Jean, executive producer of the series that revels in daring humor, included a political shot in announcing the episode.

"I just pray it won't be the last thing people see before a Trump inauguration," Jean said in a statement.

Taraji P. Henson, who plays Cookie on Fox's "Empire," and Keegan-Michael Key will guest star. Henson voices Praline, the former wife of a music mogul who has conned Mr. Burns into bankruptcy. Key voices a rapper, Jazzy James, who joins with Praline, Homer and Bart to help Mr. Burns seek revenge.

The airdate for the episode, titled "The Great Phatsby," a play on the classic "The Great Gatsby," was not announced. "The Simpsons" begins its 28th season on Sept. 25, and will reach its 600-episode milestone Oct. 16.

AP

In this image released by Fox, characters, from left, Bart, voiced by Nancy Cartwright, Lisa, voiced by Yeardley Smith, Maggie, Marge, voiced by Julie Kavner and Homer, voiced by Dan Castellaneta appear in a scene from the animated series, "The Simpsons."

'Game of Thrones' music to tour America with full orchestra

NEW YORK (AP)—If you can't get to Westeros, don't fret: It's coming to a town near you next year. Or, at least the music is.

"Game of Thrones" composer Ramin Djawadi said Monday he's putting together a 28-city tour across North America, using a full orchestra and choir to illustrate some favorite scenes from the show that will be broadcast on LED screens for fans.

"I wanted something that takes you beyond just watching an orchestra play. I wanted to have an immersive experience," he said from Los Angeles before a fan event. He hopes to create an event he called "epic" and "involved."

Djawadi, who also wrote the Grammy-nominated score for "Iron Man," has always championed little-known instruments and vowed to do the same on the "Game of Thrones" tour, highlighting things like the glass harmonica, duduk and dulcimer.

AP

In this undated image released by HBO, Lena Headey appears in a scene from "Game of Thrones."

"I think it will be very exciting and very interesting for the audience to not only hear the music again and have the music experience but also to actually see actual players perform with these instruments that they may not even know what they look like," he said.

Djawadi, not wanting to reveal too many features of the Live Nation-produced tour, said the stage's design will employ state-of-the-art technology, and there will be "things happening on-stage that will enhance the musical experience."

The tour promises to introduce live classical music to fans who might not normally want to see an orchestra, something that tickles Djawadi. "It'll be a great thing for people to experience this in a live setting with their favorite show attached to it," he said.

Djawadi said he hopes to conduct most nights and perform on some instruments.

The "Game of Thrones Live Concert Experience" kicks off Feb. 15 in Kansas City, Missouri, and will play at Madison Square Garden in New York City and the Forum in Los Angeles. It will also play at arenas in Boston, Chicago, Toronto, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, Denver, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., among others.

Tickets go on sale Aug. 13 at the Live Nation site .

The Emmy- and Golden Globe Award-winning series won't be back with its seventh season until next summer. HBO said the fantasy-thriller will be coming to an end after Season 8.

Jay Pharoah, Taran Killam exiting 'Saturday Night Live'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NBC says "Saturday Night Live" cast members Jay Pharoah and Taran Killam are exiting the show.

Pharoah and Killam won't be back when "SNL" returns this fall for its 42nd season, the network said Monday. The comedians have been on the show for six seasons.

Both are known for their celebrity impressions on "SNL," including Pharoah's Barack Obama and Kanye West and Killam's Brad Pitt and Donald Trump—although the Trump role went to "SNL" announcer and former star Darrel Hammond during the past season.

"SNL" is known for its revolving-door cast, with Tina Fey, Jimmy Fallon and Eddie Murphy among its successful alumni.

AP

In this Feb.15, 2015 file photo, Taran Killam attends the SNL 40th Anniversary Special at Rockefeller Plaza in New York.

Couple's spare bedroom is no longer open for guests

DEAR ABBY: We are a married couple in our 60s and have no close family. Before retirement, we would playfully tease each other that when we retired, we'd turn our spare bedroom into a "fun fantasy adult room." Fast forward—we now have our special room, and we're having a blast.

Well, we got a call from distant relatives who will be heading our way, and they asked to stay with us for a few days. How do we explain that we have no room for them without causing problems?

DISCREET IN WASHINGTON

DEAR DISCREET: Be honest—to a degree. After telling them that you are unable to accommodate them, explain that because you have turned the spare bedroom into an "entertainment center," it is no longer set up for guests, but you'd love to see them while they're in town and take them OUT for dinner. Just remember that if you are asked, you do not have to reveal what kind of games you are playing in there.

DEAR ABBY: I'm curious to know your thoughts regarding this dating situation: If a person has a prosthetic and the device isn't obvious, when and how would you recommend it be disclosed to the dating partner? Is it "too much information" to reveal on a first date? Would it be all right to wait a couple of dates, see how they go, and then reveal the fact? Please help, if you can.

CURIOUS IN LYNCHBURG

DEAR CURIOUS: I see no reason to reveal something like this on a first—or even second—date, and certainly not with a virtual stranger. "Prosthetics" of various kinds are common, but few people are willing to discuss the fact that their appearance has been enhanced with false teeth, caps and veneers, breast implants, Botox or a hair transplant. People are more than a prosthetic, so new acquaintances should get to know the person before receiving that information.

DEAR ABBY: This politically divisive year has fueled a debate in our family. I like to put a political sticker on my car (on a magnet). That way I can remove it when I want. One of my relatives won't ride in my car if I have my sticker on. I say it's my car and I can put what I want on it. He says I should be "sensitive to others' feelings" when they are in the car. What do you think?

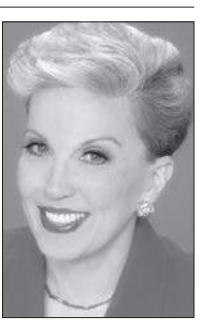
POLITICALLY STUMPED

DEAR POLITICALLY STUMPED: You have a right to exercise your freedom of expression. If your relative prefers not to ride in a car with a bumper sticker advertising "the other" political party, then he or she should feel free to arrange for alternative transportation.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

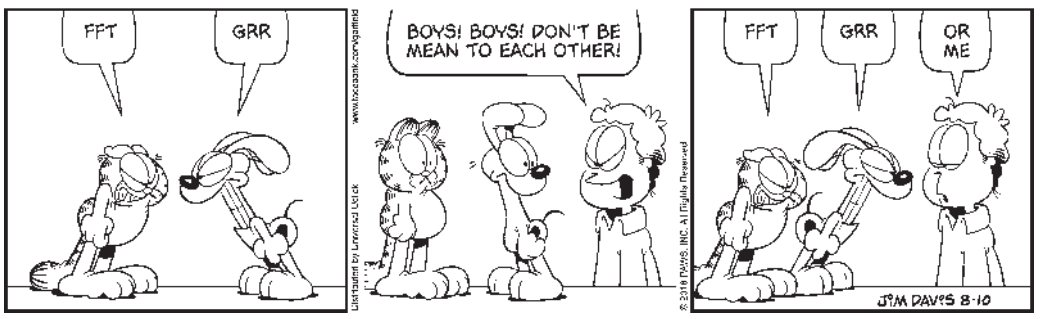
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

DON'T MAKE FACES AT THE TABLE, CALVIN.
I CAN'T HELP IT.
MOM SAID MY FACE WOULD FREEZE LIKE THIS SOME DAY, AND IT JUST DID.
NO, IT DIDN'T.
IT DID, DAD! MOM WAS RIGHT. I'M HORRIBLY DISFIGURED FOR LIFE.
NO, YOU AREN'T.
BUT DON'T WORRY, I WON'T SPOIL DINNER. SEE? ELEPHANT MAN!
8-10

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



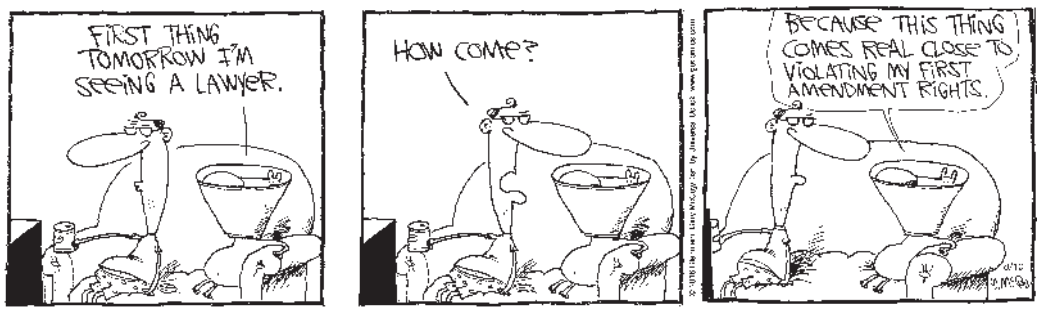
Adam@Home

By Bryan Basset

YOU GOT ONE??
GOT IT.
I GIVE YOU THE "BUG-NIHILATOR 7000." THE "DEAD BUG FLYING" EDITION.
SAYS IT FRIES MOSQUITOES "LIKE THEY'RE GOIN' OUTTA BUSINESS."
THEN DOES IT HUNT DOWN THEIR FAMILIES?
THAT ONE WAS MORE EXPENSIVE.
8-10

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


FIRST THING TOMORROW I'M SEEING A LAWYER.
HOW COME?
BECAUSE THIS THING COMES REAL CLOSE TO VIOLATING MY FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

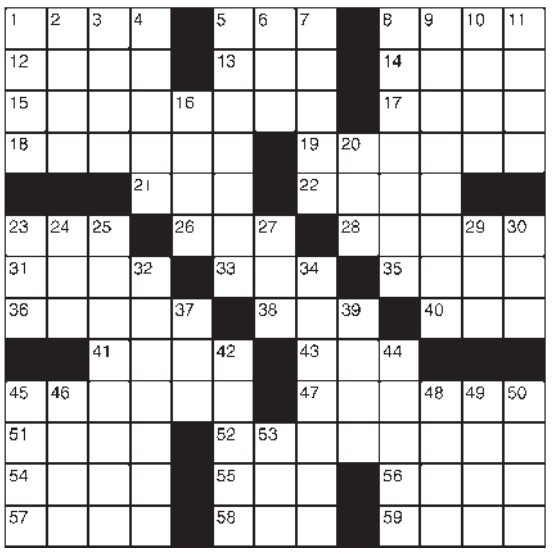
ACROSS
1 Snitched
5 Derek and Diddley
8 Capital on a fjord
12 Cupid's specialty
13 Mex. neighbor
14 March Madness gp.
15 Merry-go-round
17 Actor Estrada
18 Like some bagels
19 Sun-blocking cap parts
21 Ad- — (improvise)
22 Honolulu's isle
23 San Francisco's — Hill
26 Afternoon social
28 — Carlo
31 Ergo
33 German river
35 End-of-wk. cry
36 Book before Joel
38 Evening hrs.
40 Dig in
41 Some HDTVs
43 Boom times
45 "Yippee!"
47 Sacred river of India
51 Chills and fever
52 Assembles again
54 Riga resident
55 Under the weather
56 Author Harte
57 Casual tops
58 Hearty brew
59 Litigates

DOWN
1 Mexican entree
2 Yemen neighbor
3 Actress Singer
4 Slobber
5 Industrious sort
6 Sugary suffix
7 Spirited attack
8 Having no sequel
9 Forage for food, say
10 Hideaway
11 Mighty trees
16 Squad
20 Cartesian conclusion
23 Ultimate (degree)
24 Discoverer's call
25 Greyhound driver's assignment
27 Pump up the volume
29 Spanish aunt
30 Newt
32 Classified data
34 Import illegally
37 Small battery
39 Mast
42 Aleppo's land
44 Elitists
45 Sentry's cry
46 Curved molding
48 Mentor
49 Duel tool
50 Bygone fliers
53 Right angle

Solution time: 24 mins.

G	A	Z	A	■	S	I	Y	■	F	A	M	E
E	L	A	L	■	H	I	D	■	■	P	A	D
N	I	N	E	P	I	N	S	■	N	E	R	D
E	T	E	■	E	N	D	■	M	E	R	C	Y
■	■	■	M	A	Y	■	P	O	P	■	■	■
S	A	R	I	S	■	T	H	O	R	E	A	J
A	M	E	N	■	L	E	D	■	■	L	L	S
O	B	V	E	R	S	E	■	I	N	D	I	A
■	■	■	F	E	D	■	H	S	■	■	■	■
A	F	F	I	X	■	M	A	E	■	B	A	S
S	O	L	E	■	W	I	N	E	R	A	C	K
A	W	O	L	■	A	R	K	■	O	B	E	Y
P	L	E	D	■	D	O	S	■	W	E	H	E

Yesterday's answer 8-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Angie Harmon, 44; Justin Theroux, 45; Antonio Banderas, 56; Rosanna Arquette, 57.

Happy Birthday: A practical change to the way you handle your money will lead to greater savings. Take care of any legal matters or contract renewals as quickly as possible. A serious attitude will help you bring about positive changes. Take comfort in knowing you are going to benefit in the end. Keep emotions out of any decision you have to make. Your numbers are 5, 12, 24, 29, 37, 40, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Keep your life simple. Focus on the results you want to achieve and refuse to let anyone sidetrack you. Stay on top of negotiations, contracts and money matters. A change at home will turn out to be beneficial. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Act on your gut feelings and don't let anyone sway you in a direction that isn't easily controlled. Activities you plan with friends and children will be educational and fun. Be open to constructive criticism. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let your personal issues stand in the way of what you need to accomplish. Your efforts and contributions will result in greater support, security and an interesting and fruitful connection with your peers. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Take a renewed interest in the things that make you happy. Go out shopping or start a new hobby. Sharing your ideas with friends will give you better insight into how to make thing happen. Make romance your top priority. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Finish what you start regardless of any negativity you face. Do your own thing and grant others the same privilege. Home alterations will turn out to have hidden costs. Work outside the home for best results. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take domestic matters seriously, or you may end up with unexpected problems. Honesty and integrity will be a must if you want to keep the peace. Don't get angry when you should be busy finding suitable ways to compromise. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make plans that will bring about interesting changes to your living situation. Personal information is best kept to yourself unless you are certain you can trust the recipient. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take the initiative to make things happen. Don't wait for others to jump in and help. What you do on your own will boost your reputation and bring rewards. Love and romance should be high on your priority list. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Be careful what you offer and to whom. You are likely to be misinterpreted and taken advantage of if you are too generous. Avoid anyone who boasts about habits that are questionable. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Listen carefully to others and you will begin to realize who needs your help and who is just whining. It's important to avoid lazy individuals who are just looking for someone to do their work for them. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): A partnership will keep you moving in the right direction. Don't let an argument between two friends become your problem. Work on your own goals and don't allow any interference from others. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): An old friend or colleague will be able to give you some perspective on a tough situation. A new take on an old idea will enable you to reconsider what you want to do. Make amends with someone who you need on your team. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are determined, intriguing and bold. You are sensitive and precise.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7	9	1					
			3	4	2	7	6	
		3				5		
		6					3	
		2				1	5	6
	5	8	2		6	9		4
2	6		8		7			5
5			6			4	8	
	3	7						

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	2	8	6	1	7	9	3	4
3	4	6	9	2	8	5	1	7
9	7	1	4	5	3	8	2	6
2	6	4	7	8	5	1	9	3
8	1	9	3	4	6	7	5	2
7	5	3	1	9	2	6	4	8
6	3	2	5	7	9	4	8	1
1	9	7	8	3	4	2	6	5
4	8	5	2	6	1	3	7	9

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

CROWNS **Solution: 8 letters**

S	C	R	S	L	L	O	D	N	C	R	O	S	S	T
E	O	E	L	S	R	E	W	O	L	F	H	R	S	P
V	A	V	H	A	I	R	Q	B	O	L	E	E	T	S
A	T	L	E	T	P	R	U	B	R	L	T	I	A	E
E	O	I	Y	R	E	O	E	I	U	N	A	T	H	D
L	F	S	S	P	E	C	E	R	O	G	H	H	E	O
K	A	L	A	R	L	I	N	C	P	O	W	E	R	M
A	R	P	A	A	A	R	G	I	R	L	S	P	A	I
O	M	I	T	H	P	T	O	N	R	D	A	H	L	L
R	S	N	F	N	P	N	S	Y	A	P	T	C	D	I
E	E	K	A	Y	E	A	G	E	A	E	C	R	I	T
D	Ⓢ	K	R	B	T	L	B	L	E	L	P	A	C	A
A	Ⓜ	I	C	U	O	P	E	T	S	H	O	N	O	R
E	Ⓔ	D	I	R	B	M	S	V	I	C	T	O	R	Y
L	Ⓖ	S	Y	G	N	I	K	T	R	I	U	M	P	H

©2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 8/10

Beads, Bride, Cap, Coat of Arms, Contest, Craft, Cross, Deity, Dental, Dolls, Flowers, Gems, Glory, Gold, Hair, Half, Halo, Head, Heraldic, Honor, Implant, Kids, King, Lappet, Leader, Military, Mode, Monarch, Oak Leaves, Opal, Papal, Paper, Pink, Power, Prince, Queen, Ribbon, Royal, Ruby, Rulers, Silver, Sovereign, Stars, Steel, Teeth, Thorns, Triumph, Victory

Yesterday's Answer: Arpeggios

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 General Manager: $1,200-1,760/mo. Bachelor's degree & 4 yrs experience required. Must report to overseas owner in Korean. Email resume to jnd@hanmisaipan.com.

Building and ground maintenance repairer. Extensive experience and references required. Contact Tapochau Estates at 483-9531.

---

1 Accountant: $1,200-$2,000/mo. Bachelor's degree in accounting and least 2 years experience required. Must be familiar with U.S. GAAP. Public accounting experience required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

---

1 Piano teacher: $1,200-$1,800/mo. Bachelor's degree in music education and at least five years of experience required. Email resume to yonsei@hanmisaipan.com.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper.
Call 235-NEWS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

MVA-RFP-16-2339: Architect and Engineering Services

Closing Date: **September 5, 2016** Time: **3:00 p.m.**

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher A. Concepcion
Managing Director

SAIPAN DUCK TOURS
SPLASH DUCK
Is looking to hire
HOSTS/NARRATORS
To help us create a world class presentation and showcase the history, culture, people and natural beauty of Saipan.
- Must have a bubbly personality
- Are creative and friendly
- Love performing or being the center of attention
- With basic mandarin language skills

Salary $1,200 – $1,500 based on qualifications.

Email resume to saipanducks@gmail.com or call
287-8255/235-5050

SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan

NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 *et seq.*, as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA) Board hereby gives notice of the Regular Monthly Board Meeting set for Thursday, August 11, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Saipan Mayor's Office Conference Room, Ladera Center Building, Beach Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Roll Call
   2. Adoption of Agenda
   3. Adoption of Minutes from July 21, 2016
II. **Public Comments**
III. **Reports**
   1. Administrator
   2. Chair
   3. COMMITTEES
      a. Committee on Awards
      b. Committee on Appeal/Deferments/Forbearance
      c. Committee on Policy and Procedures
      d. Committee on Program and Development
      e. Committee of Fiscal, Legislative and Community Affairs
IV. **Old Business**
   1. SHEFA on Disability
   2. Action: NMTI Hospitality and Culinary Arts Certificate Program
V. **New Business**
   1. Fall 2016 Application Status
VI. **Executive Session**
VII. **Misc.**
VIII. **Next Meeting**
IX. **Adjournment**

Note: Meeting may continue the following day should the need arise.

share the power of a wish℠
MAKE-A-WISH®
Visit us at:
Make-A-Wish Guam
590 South Marine Corps Drive. ITC Bldg, Suite 109
Tamuning, GU 9691303507
Tel: (670) 483-9474
Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org
Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

"I want to be a firefighter!"
BJ Belacora, 6 yrs.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Building Cleaner (1)
High School Diploma or equivalent. Must have at least 3 years working experience. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Important qualities: Detailed oriented, responsible. Interpersonal skills: Must get along well with people they provide services for and must be polite and friendly. Physical stamina: Must be able to spend many hours on their feet scrubbing, bending, stooping, and stretching and must be able to lift or move up to 50 pounds. Must be able to work flexible hours and days.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, August 17, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

TAGA *Sports* is now on issuu.com/tagasports!
Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA *Sports*, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!
Now you won't have to miss a copy of TAGA *Sports*.
Visit issuu.com/tagasports to get your fix on all sports happenings in the CNMI!
To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.

WHATZIT Solution: Tooth decay

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

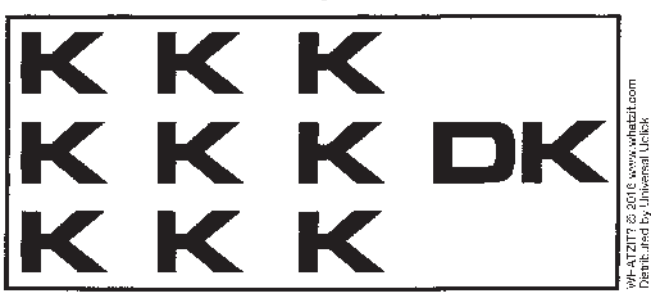
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



WHATZIT? © 2016 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

RGIII intends to seize starting opportunity with Browns

CLEVELAND (AP)—Despite spending an entire season on Washington's bench, Robert Griffin III never doubted he'd be a starter again.

His belief became reality Monday, when coach Hue Jackson said "it's time" to give Griffin the opportunity to lead the Cleveland Browns on the field.

"As long as you don't give up and you keep working, you'll get another opportunity," Griffin said.

Jackson, who chose RG3 following a weekend in which the 26-year-old helped Cleveland's first-team offense in successful scrimmages, has lofty standards that Griffin will need to meet in order to keep the job.

"He has gained the respect from his teammates, the coaching staff and the entire organization that is necessary for him to lead our offense and really the entire team," Jackson said, adding, "We expect him to continue to ascend as he becomes more and more acclimated to the offensive system we will employ this season."

Griffin beat out Josh McCown for the starting spot, leaving the 37-year-old's future with the Browns in doubt.

"It's an honor to be one of 32 in this league," Griffin said. "When you get (an opportunity), you got to seize it."

AP

Cleveland Browns head coach Hue Jackson, left, talks with quarterback Robert Griffin III during their orange and brown scrimmage at the NFL football team's training camp Saturday, Aug. 6, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio.

Griffin signed a two-year, $15 million free agent contract in March and has taken the majority of first-team reps during the Browns' organized team activities and training camp. The fifth-year quarterback completed three long passes to rookie Corey Coleman in the team's Friday scrimmage, including a deep touchdown toss that impressed veteran cornerback Tramon Williams.

"Some of the balls that he threw today, the location that he put them at, it was amazing," Williams said Friday. "I told him, I said, `Man, if you throwing the ball like that ... you're going to throw a lot of touchdowns this year."

In Saturday's no-pads scrimmage at Ohio Stadium in Columbus, the Baylor product tossed two touchdown passes to receiver Terrelle Pryor.

The Browns' first preseason game is on Friday at Green Bay.

Though he may not be long for Cleveland, McCown felt he got a fair chance in the competition, despite the lack of first-team reps.

"Not in any way or shape do I think it was unfair." McCown said. "I think it was exactly how it needed to be for them to fairly evaluate things and I trust their judgment."

McCown, who started eight games for Cleveland in 2015 before breaking his collarbone, is reportedly a top trade target for the Dallas Cowboys, who are in need of a replacement backup quarterback after Kellen Moore broke his right ankle last week. McCown said that the Browns have been open with him about trade discussions and said that everyone is on "the same page."

Griffin has the starting QB job for the first time since 2014, when he played for the Redskins. He did not take a snap for the Washington in 2015 and was released March 7.

He was selected by the Redskins second overall in the 2012 NFL Draft, and won the Rookie of the Year and led Washington to a 10-6 record. Over his first four seasons, Griffin started 35 games, throwing for 8,097 yards and 40 touchdowns with 23 interceptions.

Griffin is set to be the 25th starting quarterback for the Browns since 1999.

Congealed field in Canton takes auditions from Colts, Pack

OHIO (AP)—The Pro Football Hall of Fame will issue refunds to ticket buyers who went home from the NFL's annual preseason kickoff without having watched any football.

The competitors for roster spots with the Colts and the Packers won't get the game back, though.

"I can tell you this: Every one of those young players are upset," Buffalo Bills coach Rex Ryan said.

After Brett Favre stole the show with a humorous, insightful and moving speech during the induction ceremony for his class on Saturday, the talk of league turned the next night to the field. That's because part of it was congealed, rendering the Indianapolis-Green Bay game unplayable.

The traditional exhibition in Canton, Ohio, an extra preseason contest for each team and source of local pride, was canceled when NFL and team officials deemed the turf unsafe due to hardened paint and loosened rubber pellets.

Neither the Colts nor the Packers were available for comment on Monday, but both coaches expressed disappointment on Sunday night about the lost opportunity to evaluate, even though four more games remain before the regular season.

These exhibitions often become yawners for fans, with most starters standing on the sideline, but they're serious business for the undrafted and unproven guys trying to make an impression.

"Nothing is guaranteed in this league. Those types of games, you don't want to miss reps, especially in game-type situations," New York Giants safety Cooper Taylor, himself a roster-bubble player.

"You don't go live in practice any more. You just can't do that with the way the NFL has been set up."

He was referring to the attempt to protect the health of the players in a dangerous sport, which is exactly why the game was called off.

As frustrated as the second, third and fourth-stringers must have been by the cancellation, nobody would have wanted to put bones, joints or muscles at greater risk.

"If something happens to somebody, then it's like `Oh, they shouldn't have played the game," Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Julio Jones said.

Something did happen on that same field last year, to Pittsburgh Steelers kicker Shaun Suisham. He tore the ACL in his left knee in the Hall of Fame game against the Minnesota Vikings, and his career could be over.

The NFL Players Association has made field conditions a priority of its members.

"There is a standard," said Giants linebacker Mark Herzlich, the team's union rep. "People haven't held everything to that standard. So I think that is what the focus is, and the NFL is saying we are committed to this, too, the safety of our players. I think that is why it happened."

Baltimore and Philadelphia had a preseason game called off in 2001 when a new artificial turf at Veterans Stadium, the former home of the Eagles, was deemed unsafe for playing on. Ryan was the defensive line coach for the Ravens that year, so the news on Sunday night resonated with him.

"I get it. Everybody involved in the NFL wants to have that game played," Ryan said. "I know everybody was excited about it, and you get a chance to see two teams play when nobody else is playing."

Eli Manning not feeling his age heading into 13th season

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Other than the elastic brace on his right knee, there was no visible sign that age was catching up to Eli Manning as he entered his 13th season as the New York Giants' quarterback.

The 35-year-old hasn't changed much since taking over as the Giants' starter halfway through his rookie season in 2004. He's healthy, even after starting the last 183 regular-season games. He can make all the throws and seems to be enjoying himself working within Ben McAdoo's West Coast offense.

Even handling the media is a breeze: When asked two questions at the same time Monday following training camp, Manning wasn't thrown off in the least. He answered the first, then quickly answered the second without having to be reminded of the question.

"I used to just kind of roll out of bed and go practice," Manning said. "Now I need about an hour to get loosened up. It's just maintenance. I've gotten in the routine of doing it over the years. I see the difference and have stayed with it."

The Giants rely on the two-time Super Bowl MVP. Without him, Odell Beckham would be wasting his time getting off the line of scrimmage. It's a role Manning accepts.

"I think as a quarterback you have a big responsibility," Manning said. "You have to play well, take over and I have to do my job and play at a high level. I understand that, I demand that of myself anyway, so I don't think you try and put any added pressure."

Manning, who has not thrown an interception since the opening 11-on-11 play of training camp, is going to be patient with his passing game early on this season.

Other than Beckham and Victor Cruz, there are a lot of new people. Second-round draft pick Sterling Shepard shows promise, and Dwayne Harris and Geremy Davis are expected to do more entering their second season.

However, they have a lot to learn, as do the seven other free-agent receivers in camp.

"I think you just understand that mistakes are going to happen. ... I try and kind of tell them things that it was tough for me to understand the first time," Manning said. That means talking the receivers through their mistakes, hoping they do better the next time.

There's one veteran who may benefit from Manning's help, too. Cruz has been limited to six games over the past two seasons by knee and thigh problems. Though Manning feels Cruz has looked sharp, he knows catching balls in game situations is different than in practice or catching from one thrown by a machine.

"Now hey, you have to turn back, you're running full speed, you have to adjust, hold a defender off a little bit, just making those tough catches and adjusting to the ball in the air are things that he's doing much better now" Manning said. "He just had to get some live action and is playing some football."

Manning will get a chance to see how far the offense has come when the Giants host to the Miami Dolphins on Friday night.

McAdoo has not said how long Manning will play Friday. He won't even say whether he or offensive coordinator Mike Sullivan will call the plays; McAdoo did it for the past two seasons as the offensive coordinator before taking over the head coaching job from Tom Coughlin.

Crawford ties NL record 7 hits, Giants win in 14

MIAMI (AP) — Brandon Crawford became the first major leaguer in 41 years to get seven hits in a game, finally putting the San Francisco Giants ahead to stay with an RBI single in the 14th inning of an 8-7 victory over the Miami Marlins on Monday night.

Crawford tripled, doubled and had five singles in eight at-bats, tying an NL record. The previous player to get seven hits in a game was Pittsburgh Pirates infielder Rennie Stennett on Sept. 16, 1975, at the Chicago Cubs.

Stennett set a modern-era record by accomplishing the feat in a nine-inning game. The only other player to do that was Wilbert Robinson for the old Baltimore Orioles of the National League in 1892.

Johnny Burnett holds the major league mark for an extra-inning game with nine hits for Cleveland in a 1932 contest that lasted 18 innings.

George Kontos (3-2) pitched two scoreless innings to earn the victory for the Giants, who were without manager Bruce Bochy after he was hospitalized in the morning with an illness.

The Giants went 6 for 21 with runners in scoring position and left 18 on base in a game that took 5 hours, 34 minutes -- the longest of the season for both teams.

San Francisco threatened in the 13th when Crawford hit a one-out triple off Dustin McGowan (1-3). After the second out, Marlins manager Don Mattingly intentionally walked two batters to get to the pitcher's spot in the order.

Mariners 3, Tigers 0

In Seattle, Hisashi Iwakuma threw seven shutout innings for his seventh win in his last eight starts, Mike Zunino and Kyle Seager both had RBI singles off Michael Fulmer in the second inning and Seattle beat Detroit.

Seattle won its fourth straight and moved within 2 1/2 games of Detroit and Boston for the second wild card in the American League thanks to another gem from Iwakuma (13-7). The right-hander allowed five hits and struck out eight, running his streak of scoreless innings at Safeco Field to 21 1/3.

Blue Jays 7, Rays 5

In Toronto, Devon Travis had a career-high four hits, including the go-ahead single in the seventh inning, and Toronto beat Tampa Bay.

Edwin Encarnacion hit his 299th career home run as the Blue Jays snapped a three-game losing streak against the Rays.

Encarnacion and Jose Bautista both had three RBI as Toronto scored more than four runs for the first time since a 9-1 win over Baltimore on July 30.

Dodgers 9, Phillies 4

In Los Angeles, Corey Seager homered twice and Chase Utley and Yasmani Grandal also went deep for Los Angeles.

Seager has 21 homers, breaking Hanley Ramirez's record for homers by a Dodgers shortstop. He's also the eighth L.A. rookie with 20 or more homers in a season.

The Dodgers built a 5-0 lead after one inning off Zach Eflin (3-5).

Athletics 3, Orioles 2

In Oakland, Kendall Graveman pitched seven strong innings, Billy Butler hit a tie-breaking single in the sixth and Oakland beat Baltimore despite another home run from slugger Manny Machado.

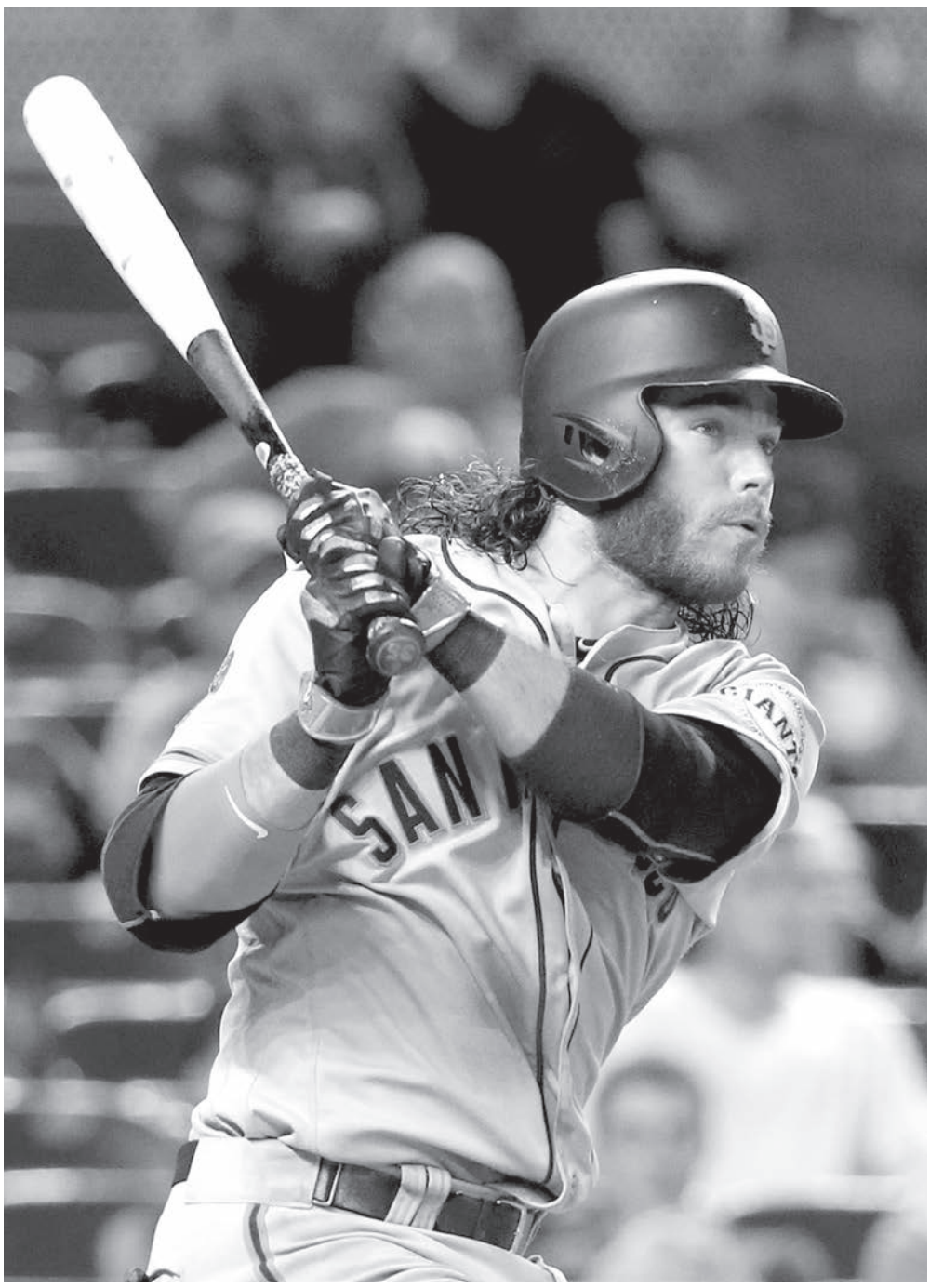
Machado, who hit home runs in his first three at-bats Sunday, belted his 26th home run of the season with two outs in the eighth.

It wasn't enough to prevent the Orioles from losing and falling into a first-place tie with Toronto in the AL East.

Twins 3, Astros 1

In Minneapolis, Tyler Duffey pitched six effective innings and Minnesota took advantage of two misplays by Houston center fielder Carlos Gomez in a three-run fifth.

Gomez, the former Twins outfielder, let Jorge Polanco's single skip by him for a two-base error that allowed one run to score. Then he lost a fly ball off Juan Centeno's bat, turning it into an RBI triple.



San Francisco Giants' Brandon Crawford watches the ball as he hits a triple during the 13th inning of a baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Monday, Aug. 8, 2016, in Miami. The Giants defeated the Marlins 8-7 early Tuesday, in 14 innings. Crawford became the first major league player in 41 years to get seven hits in a game.

Rangers 4, Rockies 3

In Denver, Elvis Andrus hit a two-run single, Mitch Moreland delivered a tiebreaking double and Texas scored three times in the ninth inning to beat Colorado.

The AL West had a double steal before Andrus' single tied it 3-all. Moreland sent Andrus home with a double before he was thrown out stretching at third.

Carlos Estevez (2-7) got his fifth blown save in the ninth.

Charlie Blackmon had an RBI single in the third. Nolan Arenado homered in the fourth and hit an RBI single in the eighth off winner Keone Kela (3-1).

Cardinals 5, Reds 4

In St. Louis, Yadier Molina started and ended a five-run rally in the ninth inning as St. Louis stunned Cincinnati.

Molina singled to open the inning and was hit by a pitch from Ross Ohlendorf with the bases loaded to drive home the winning run. In between, Matt Carpenter drove in two runs with a single and Brandon Moss tied it when he walked with the bases loaded.

The comeback erased what had been a futile night of offense for St. Louis through the first eight innings, as the Cardinals entered the last inning 0 for 11 with runners in scoring position.

Braves 4, Brewers 3, 12 innings

In Milwaukee, Matt Kemp scored from third base after Keon Broxton dropped Gordon Beckham's sacrifice fly in the 12th inning, and Atlanta beat Milwaukee.

With the bases loaded and nobody out, Broxton dropped a drive to deep center field for an error.

Kemp drew a walk from Carlos Torres (2-2) to start the 12th and went to third on a ground-rule double by Nick Markakis.

Brandon Cunniff (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the win. Jim Johnson stranded a runner at second for his ninth save. Atlanta's bullpen combined for six scoreless innings.

Yankees' McCann clears waivers, could be traded

NEW YORK—Brian McCann has cleared waivers and, as a result, could be traded away. The Yankees' catcher was involved in trade rumors prior to the trade deadline as well, however, no trade was agreed upon.

After the non-waiver trade deadline on August 1st, teams are eligible to place players on revocable waivers. If the player clears waivers without being claimed, the team is free to trade him anywhere. If the player is claimed however, the team may pull that player back off of waivers and keep him, trade him to the club that put in the winning claim, or simply allow the other team to take that player and his contract.

McCann is batting .231/.330/.413 for the Yankees this season over 349 plate appearances, which is right around the league average by wRC+. According to Baseball Prospectus' defensive metrics—which take into account catcher framing—McCann has saved his team 6.5 runs. It is clear that the 32-year old McCann can still provide value to a team then, though perhaps not elite value anymore.

Making him less tradeable—and the reason he cleared waivers to begin with—is McCann's contract status. Over the next two seasons, he is owed $34 million and is attached to a team option in 2019 worth $15 million.

McCann was involved in some trade rumors prior to the August 1st deadline, however, those talks never materialized. This could be due to many factors, but not helping was the fact that Jonathan Lucroy was the most lucrative option and he didn't move until the waning hours. This likely could have hampered the value of Padres' catcher Derek Norris as well.

The trade deadline combined with recent events have signalled a change for the Yankees. Instead of buying, the team shipped away two of the most elite relievers in Andrew Miller and Aroldis Chapman. In a seller's market, Yankees' GM Brian Cashman appears to have hit a goldmine of an abbreviated rebuild. That is to say, the team sold off two assets—that they didn't need—plus Ivan Nova and Carlos Beltran for substantial wealth in prospects. Wealth so substantial, that the rebuild doesn't have to continue any further, and the major league roster still boasts some impressive assets.

Beyond the trade deadline, the retirements of both Mark Teixeira and Alex Rodriguez have both been announced. This seems to be signalling a steady shift toward building a more youthful team. With the exit of Beltran, Teixeira, and Rodriguez, the Yankees seem prepared to hand their hopes over to Clint Frazier, Greg Bird, and Aaron Judge. If a deal is worked out for McCann, a September call-up candidate could be 23-year old catching prospect Gary Sanchez as well.

Finding a trade partner for McCann may revolve around how willing the Yankees are to retain some salary. While the Yankees are frequently discussed as a team with the most payroll flexibility, they have nearly $130 million on the books for next season. It is also worth noting that McCann has a full no-trade clause and that could compound the matter of finding a trade partner even further.

Cashman and the rest of the Yankees front office will likely weigh the cost of keeping McCann over trading him away in lieu of paying some of his salary and hampering their chances to spend in 2017. The Yankees exceeded the luxury tax this season and have expressed a desire to end their streak of doing so.

Lee and company join last ranking event in Fiji

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee, Tania Tan, and Isabel Heras will be competing in their last Juniors ITF ranking event in Fiji for the season this week.

The three Commonwealth junior bets are among the 18 Pacific Oceania players entered in the 2016 Oceania Closed Junior Championship, which was scheduled to start last Monday and will run until this Friday. Matches in the first two days were called off due to rain, leaving participants in both the girls and boys singles event with no choice but to play their first matches today.

Lee is at the top half of the 32-player draw and will face Australian wild card entry Caitlyn Portela on Court 3 of the ITF/OTF Regional Tennis Centre in Lautoka. Heras is also at the upper half of the draw and will have a tougher opening round assignment in the No. 6 seed Jessica Zaviacic of Australia. Tan, on the other hand, has the toughest foe among the three CNMI players as she is paired against the second-seeded Kaitlin Staines of Australia in the first round.

Besides Lee, Tan, and Heras, seven other Pacific Oceania players are competing in the girls singles event. The list includes' Palau's Ayana Rengiil, Tahiti's Naia Guitton, Papua New Guinea's Violet Apisah, the Solomon Island's Georjemah Row and Vinda Teally, and Fiji's Mulan Kamoe and Ruby Coffin.

Majority of Pacific Oceania's bets in the singles play are also entered in the doubles event with Lee and Rengiil partnering anew and leading the group's bid for the championship. Other pairings are Heras and Australia's Luciana Kunkel, Row and Teally, Coffin and Vienna Kumar Fong, Kamoe and Guitton, and the top-ranked Apisah and Petra Hule of Australia.

The Oceania Closed is a B2 grade tournament, offering the highest points among the series of Junior ITF ranking events scheduled in Fiji. The singles champion will get 120 rankings points, 80 to the runner-up, and 60, 40, 25, and 10 to the quarterfinalists, losers in Last 16, and losers in Last 32 (for 64-player draw), respectively. In the doubles, points at stake are 80, 60, 40, 25, and 10 for (in order) the champions, runners-up, semifinalists, quarterfinalists, and losers in Last 16.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The CNMI's Carol Lee, right, and Palau's Ayana Rengiil are teaming up anew as they compete in the doubles event of the 2016 Oceania Closed Junior Championship, beginning today in Lautoka, Fiji.

CLEAR

From Page 28

turned on appeal. King took umbrage at Efimova's No. 1 finger wag during the semifinals, and the bad blood carried over to the final.

After glaring at Efimova in the ready room and giving her a look of disdain on deck, King led all the way to take the gold in 1 minute, 4.93 seconds. Efimova settled for the silver, more than a half-second behind. The bronze went to another American, Katie Meili.

Efimova was booed by many in the crowd when introduced before the race, though a smattering of Russian fans cheered her on.

"I really don't know how I even reached the final," Efimova said, her face red from crying. "It would have really been the end of a fairytale, a horrible dream, if I'd won gold. But that was all I could do right now."

King didn't acknowledge Efimova during a raucous victory celebration.

While Efimova hung on the rope separating their lanes in the middle of the pool, King took off in the other direction to congratulate Meili. The medalists all climbed out of the pool together, but the Americans quickly got back to celebrating on deck. Efimova walked away by herself.

Finally, as the swimmers were picking up their Olympic credentials, King gave Efimova a quick pat on the shoulder.

Nothing more.

MEDAL RACE: Japan took down the biggest team event of Day 3 at the 2016 Olympics, but Team USA stood tallest after individual swimming events wrapped up in the evening.

Americans won two gold medals and six medals in four finals on Monday night. When it comes to the pool, the team already has 14 medals—or as many as the next six most successful countries combined. That dominance helped push the U.S. to the medal lead with 19 platform appearances in only three days of competition. China, with five gold medals and 13 total, currently ranks second.

Japan earned team gold in men's gymnastics, besting Russia and China for the top spot. The U.S. team finished a disappointing fifth in the team all-around.

China took an early lead in the count thanks to a gold medal in men's 10-meter synchronized diving, where the US team of David Boudia and Steele Johnson took silver. China's Chen Aisen and Lin Yue dominated, scoring 496.98 to Boudia and Johnson's 457.11.

Colombia added its name to the ledger of gold medal winners when 62kg weightlifter Oscar Figueroa took home first place in his discipline. Despite an impressive performance, he was outshined by 58kg Thai female Sukanya Srisurat, who set an Olympic record with a total weight of 240kg.

Elite shooting performances also sent golds to Croatia (Josip Glasnovic, men's trap) and Italy (Niccolo Campriani, men's 10m air rifle).

Finally, Australia kicked off its day three by winning the Games' first rugby gold medal since 1924. The Aussie women prevailed in an all-Oceania showdown against New Zealand in a tight 24-17 rugby sevens victory. The Kiwis settled for second while Canada blew the doors off Great Britain, 33-10, to claim bronze.

UPSET SERENA: One destroyed racket —and one poor set— later, Serena Williams made it safely into the third round of the Rio Olympics as she bids for a second consecutive singles gold medal.

The No. 1-seeded American struggled for quite a while Monday night, before emerging with a 7-6 (5), 6-2 victory over France's Alize Cornet, despite making 36 unforced errors and getting broken four times.

TITANIUM

From Page 28

in the second inning before Titanium took the driver's seat after scoring three runs apiece in the third and fifth. The Bears, on the other hand, were without a run from the second to fourth before saving one in the fifth.

Jerald Cabrera and Brian Camacho had RBI single each at the bottom of the third and the former also reached off a passed ball from Bears relief pitcher J.J. Lizama to lift Titanium to a 4-1 lead. Titanium then stretched the advantage to 6 after five complete inning, 7-1, after Jon Cabrera and Jun Rabauliman scored off the Bears' miscues and the latter earlier singled in leadoff batter Brian Camacho.

Rabauliman's run was Titanium's last, but that did not hurt the team's chances in winning Game 2 and keeping its finals hopes alive, as the Bears failed to mount a comeback to steal the victory and sweep the short series.

The Bears, after A.J. Lizama's sacrifice out drove Franklin Lizama home at the top of the fifth inning, went cold anew from the sixth to eighth. Then at the top of the ninth, the Bears were pressured to score at least six runs to extend the game, but fell short when only Perry Celis made it home.

Celis led off for the Bears and moved to first off a Titanium error at second. Another Titanium booboo advanced him to second, while he reached third off a passed ball before making it home off one more miscue from their foe. Henry Lizama was next at bat and went down on a 5-3 putout play, while Franklin Lizama, who had a double, was beaten to third for the second out. A fielder's choice on Peyton Lizama kept the Bears in the game, but not for long, as A.J. Lizama returned to the dugout off another 5-3 putout play, giving Titanium the Game 2 victory half an inning early.

Palacios led Titanium's victory, as he worked the mound in no relief and gave up no earned run. He also scored two runs.

Meanwhile, Game 2 of the other semis pairing between the defending champions GSM Brewers and BSI Aces was played last night and results of the match were unavailable at press time.

The Brewers must win their second meeting to avoid losing the crown they held for the last two seasons. The BSI Aces put the defending champions to the brink of elimination following a 4-2 victory in the series opener last week.

ISAIAH

From Page 28

Mike Manalang and Oliver Gragasin teamed up in lifting Isaiah to a 12-point advantage at the break as the former drilled 9 of his 11 markers in the first half and the latter chipped in 8. Three other Isaiah players scored in the first half for the squad's balance offense.

As for the depleted Samuel, no one from its eight-player roster hit more than two field goals in the opening 20 minutes of play.

In the last 20 minutes, Samuel continued to struggle offensively, while Gragasin delivered the killer blows for Isaiah en route to finishing with a game-high 24 points, way ahead of the output (11) of Samuel top scorer Darwin Gonzales.

Meanwhile, the fourth-seeded Ezekiel joined Isaiah to the semifinal round following a 52-49 victory against the fifth-ranked Caleb in the second playoff match last Monday.

Ezekiel knocked in a couple triples in the second half to counter the successive baskets of Caleb's Angelo Hernaez and pull off the 3-point win.

Job Samonte buried three of Ezekiel's four shots from the parking lot in the second half, including one in the homestretch. Victor Formales converted the other triple, while Dan Toribio and Arvin Bacani also hit clutch baskets, combining for 6 of Ezekiel's last 9 markers.

Samonte finished with a team-high 12 points, while Don Teregeyo and Toribio were the other double figure scorers for Ezekiel, tallying 11 and 10, respectively.

Hernaez was the lone twin-digit scorer for Caleb, registering 28. He recorded 14 of Caleb's first 16 points in the second half to keep Ezekiel within striking distance. However, he clearly lacked support from his teammates, especially in the closing minutes where he had only John Lizardo backing him up, while four different players scored for Ezekiel.

Meanwhile, the two other quarterfinal games in the adults division were played last night with Gideon scheduled to face Joshua in the curtain-raiser and Jeremiah slated to meet Daniel in the second match.

The quarterfinal games were originally scheduled last week, but were called off due to heavy rains that left the Ada gym flooded. Sports coordinators of the participating teams and league commissioner Noel Puno then dried up the court last weekend to push through with Monday's pair of matches.

First Game

Isaiah 60 — Gragasin 24, Manalang 11, Tenepere 9, Estanislaco 6, Santos 4, David 4, Labaovas 2.

Samuel 51 — Gonzales 11, Brillo 10, Badal 9, Robles 8, Francis 6, Reyes 5, Lopez 2.

Scoring by halves: 33-21, 60-51.

Second Game

Ezekiel 52 — Samonte 12, Teregeyo 11, Yang 10, Formales 8, Bacani 6, Marilla 4, Cruz 1.

Caleb 49 — Hernaez 28, Lizardo 6, Dequito 4, Joson 3, Castro 2, Gabaldon 2, Gozon 2, Henzon 2.

Scoring by halves: 22-19, 52-49.

US men's basketball blasts Venezuela after slow start

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Red, white and blaze for one quarter, the U.S. Olympic team woke up and won with ease.

Shaking off a sluggish, sloppy start and maybe some Brazilian boredom, the Americans regrouped in the second quarter and romped over Venezuela 113-69 on Monday, taking another step toward a possible third straight gold medal.

Kevin Durant scored 16 points and Carmelo Anthony 14 for the U.S. squad, which may have grown a touch overconfident following a 57-point blowout of China in its tournament opener.

The Americans were tied at 18-all after one quarter, but stopped turning the ball over and fouling, unleashed their defense and outscored Venezuela 30-8 in the second period. They cruised from there, improving to 82-1 under coach Mike Krzyzewski and reminding everyone it's going to take a special performance for 40 minutes to deny them another Olympic title.

AP

United States' DeMarcus Cousins (12) keeps the ball away from Venezuela's Gregory Echenique (0) during a basketball game at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Monday, Aug. 8, 2016.

"Everything's not going to be easy," Durant said. "We know that, even with this great team."

It was similar to the meeting between the teams in Chicago on July 29, when the U.S. shot poorly and still won by 35 on their pre-Rio exhibition tour. Maybe this was a reminder that no team can be taken lightly - and there is little margin for error - once the Olympic flame is ignited.

"Once we settled down, made our adjustments to the way they were calling the game, the way that Venezuela wanted to play the game, that second quarter we picked it up defensively and turned it around," Anthony said.

The Americans continue pool play on Wednesday against unbeaten Australia. The Aussies, featuring five NBA players, four of them league champions, improved to 2-0 on Monday with an impressive 95-80 win over Serbia. Australia has never won an Olympic medal in men's basketball, but Krzyzewski knows the team from Down Under will be up for the Americans.

"I don't think they've gone back to their boat or apartment or wherever they're staying thinking they can't beat us," the coach said. "They feel like they can beat us and we understand that."

Anthony, the four-team Olympian and two-time gold medalist playing in his record 25th game for the United States, provided a much-needed spark in the second quarter.

With the Americans leading just 28-22 and looking anything but golden, Anthony came across the lane and stripped the ball away from Venezuelan center Gregory Echenique and passed it to Kyrie Irving. Anthony followed Irving up the floor, accepted a feed on the wing and knocked down a 3-pointer that lifted some of the pressure—and fog—off Team USA.

"That changed the game," said Paul George, who led the U.S. with 20 points. "Melo made that three and it gave us all confidence."

Anthony moved past Michael Jordan on the career scoring list and now only trails LeBron James and David Robinson for the most points by an American Olympian.

"I never even knew that," Anthony said. "Anytime you can break a record or make history or pass somebody like Michael Jordan, it's an honor. We still have more games to go so hopefully we can break more records."

Jimmy Butler scored 17—most of them coming in extended garbage time—and DeAndre Jordan added 14 and nine rebounds in the first Olympic matchup between the nations.

Venezuela's John Cox, a cousin of American superstar Kobe Bryant, scored 19 and Echenique 18.

Although this may not be the best made-in-America team as James, Stephen Curry and others chose to skip the first games held in South America for a variety of reasons, the U.S. squad that came to Brazil appears to be in a class by itself. There will likely be tougher games ahead, but they haven't had one yet.

Venezuela, which doesn't have an NBA player on its roster, didn't figure to be a threat but the FIBA Americas champion wasn't intimidated by the U.S. roster of household names and with their fans doing all they could to push the heavy underdogs, they outworked the Americans in the first quarter, which ended with the U.S. committing six turnovers.

It was a very different story in the second, when the Americans flexed their muscle at both ends, reeled off 13 straight points in one stretch and took complete control.

"They have a lot of shooters, no?" Venezuela coach Nestor Garcia said with a smile.

They have a lot of everything.

Fencer Muhammad makes US history, wears hijab in Olympics

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—American Ibtihaj Muhammad looked like all the other fencers when she stepped on the piste, save for the nondescript black scarf covering her head.

With that small gesture, Muhammad made history.

Muhammad became the first American athlete Monday to compete in the Olympics with a hijab, which she wears to adhere to the tenets of her Muslim faith.

Muhammad, ranked eighth in the world in sabre, beat Ukranian Olena Kravatska 15-13 in her first match before falling to France's Cecilia Berder 15-12 in the round of 16.

Muhammad will compete again on Saturday in the team sabre event.

"I feel like it's a blessing to be able to represent so many people who don't have voices, who don't speak up," Muhammad said. "It's just been a really remarkable experience."

The gold medal in the weapon went to Russia's Yana Egorian, who scored the final two points to stun teammate Sofya Velikaya 15-14.

Muhammad, a New Jersey native and three-time NCAA All-American from Duke, became an instant star when she qualified for her first Olympics earlier this year. And she embraced the spotlight, which helped make her an unlikely face of the U.S. team given how little publicity fencing typically receives.

"It represents who she's been her entire life. Ever since she was a little girl, she never let anything hold her back. She never set limits. She's always striving to be the very best," said Ibtihaj's brother Qareeb, who was overcome with emotion when he saw his sister compete. "Despite the adversity she's faced; being a Muslim, being an African-American, being a female, she's still confident in her ability to be successful. She's my hero."

Muhammad's siblings, parents and friends came from as far away as Los Angeles and New Jersey to cheer her on, giving Muhammad a standing ovation ahead of her first match.

Muhammad got off to a shaky start against Kravatska, but she rallied with a string of points that put her over the top.

But Berder, ranked ninth, took control of their round of 16 match midway through and rolled to victory. Muhammad was so frustrated by her performance that she needed over an hour to compose herself before meeting reporters.

"In a sport like fencing, you're your own biggest opponent. If you can control yourself and your nerves and your emotions and execute the actions that you want to execute in the way that you want to execute, you'll always be successful. I failed to do that," Muhammad said.

Rematch in Rio: Phelps, Le Clos face off in 200 fly

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—When Michael Phelps decided to come out of retirement, he circled one race in particular on the Olympic schedule.

The 200-meter butterfly.

At the London Games, in what was supposed to be his Olympic farewell, Phelps was leading as he came to the wall in the stroke he does better than anyone.

But he mistimed the finish, glided a little too long, and was edged by Chad le Clos.

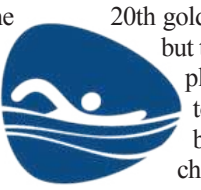
That result has irked Phelps ever since.

On Tuesday night, he'll get a chance to make amends against the South African.

Call it the Rematch in Rio.

"Should be a fun race," Phelps said.

Le Clos knows he'll be facing the most decorated athlete in Olympic history, a highly motivated rival still at the top of his game as he showed in leading the United States to a stirring victory in the 4x100 freestyle relay.



But Le Clos isn't backing down.

"May the best man win," he said. "I'll race my heart out."

A pair of Hungarians could also be part of the mix. Tamas Kenderesi posted the fastest time in the semifinals, edging out Phelps, and five-time Olympic medalist Laszlo Cseh put up the third-fastest time. Le Clos was fourth, not bad considering it was the back end of a grueling double, coming less than an hour after he claimed silver in the 200 freestyle.

"Of course there's a huge rivalry between Michael and myself," Le Clos said. "I race to win and I want to beat Michael."

Phelps will be going for the 20th gold medal of his career, but the South African has plenty of motivation, too. His parents, both battling cancer, are cheering him on in Rio.

"It's been very difficult, to say the least, the last few months," Le Clos said. "When you swim for something greater than yourself, it can help you to achieve great things."

Phelps will actually have two chances for gold on Tuesday. He will also be part of the 4x200 freestyle relay, a race the Americans have won at the last three Olympics.

The U.S. will have a good shot at another gold in the women's 200 free, with Katie Ledecky looking to make it 2-for-2 in the longer freestyle events. She already crushed the world record in the 400 free, in addition to anchoring the Americans to a silver medal in the 4x100 free relay.

Ledecky was second in the semifinals behind Sweden's Sarah Sjostrom, gold medalist in the 100 butterfly.

"It's only a semi," Ledecky said. "It's the third round that counts."

Ledecky and Sjostrom aren't the only women dominating at the pool.

Hungary's Katinka Hosszu became the first two-time swimming gold medalist at the Rio Games with a victory in the 100 backstroke.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Titanium ends Bears' streak, ties series

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jhace Palacios leads off for Titanium during the bottom of the first inning of Game 2 of their semis series against the Chalan Kanoa Bears in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears are undefeated no more following Titanium's 7-3 victory in Game 2 of their semis series in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Bears absorbed their first loss after winning their first 15 matches this season, including a 14-game sweep in the double-round robin elimination, while Titanium tied the best-of-three semis series and forced the deciding Game 3, which will be played tonight.

Titanium was on target in the early part of the game to take control of the match, while the Bears struggled, scoring no more than one run in each of the three innings they hit the board.

Titanium tallied all its seven runs in the first five innings, while the Bears were held to two at the halfway mark. The Bears scored first with A.J. Lizama reaching off a Titanium error at the top of the opening inning, while lead-off batter and pitcher Jhace Palacios made the equalizer at the bottom, moving home off a passed ball from starting pitcher Keoni Kaipat.

The scores remained tied

See TITANIUM on Page 26

Isaiah stuns Samuel; Ezekiel advances

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Winless in the regular season, Isaiah notched its first victory in the 5th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League at the expense of the top-ranked Samuel, 60-51, last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The upset did not only put Isaiah on the win column, also but gave the team a semifinals berth, while Samuel, which finished the round-robin elimination with a 6-1 record, is out of contention.

Isaiah's giant killing at the start of the playoff round was made possible with the absence of Samuel quarterback and top-scorer Mark Cando, who is off-island. Cando averaged 24.3 points in six games in the elimination round, posting his season-high 34 markers in their 75-61 rout of Ezekiel and tallying 26 markers in his farewell match last month (against Gideon).

Cando's absence clearly left a big void on Samuel's offense, as the regular season top finisher was held to 21 points in the first half, while Isaiah had 33 to build a double-digit lead.

See ISAIAH on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ezekiel's Don Teregeyo, second left, drives against Caleb's Angelo Hernaez during their playoff game in the Genesis Cup last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Clear victory for clean athletes; US leads medal tally

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—This one will surely be seen as a victory for clean athletes over the dopers.

No doubt, that was Lilly King's take.

The feisty American stared down Yulia Efimova, a swimmer at the center of Russia's doping scandal, and then beat her in the pool Monday night.

King could hardly contain her satisfaction at capturing gold in the 100-meter breaststroke—especially given who was in the next lane.

"It just proves you can compete clean and still come out on top with all the hard work you put in behind the scenes, behind the meet, at practice and weight sessions," the 19-year-old Indiana University student said giddily. "There is a way to become the best and do it the right way."

Efimova arrived in Rio as one of the symbols of the massive Russian doping operation, an athlete who had already served a 16-month suspension and tested positive again this year for the now-banned substance meldonium.

Efimova was initially banned from the Olympics, but that decision was over-

See CLEAR on Page 26

AP
United States' gold medal winner Lilly King is flanked by Russia's silver medal winner Yulia Efimova, left, and United States' bronze medal winner Katie Meili during the ceremony for the women's 100-meter breaststroke final during the swimming competitions at the 2016 Summer Olympics, Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2016, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.